

## **Team Two Newsletter 2009**

### **Term Dates: 2 February -9 April**

#### **Term One:**

Welcome to Team Two for 2009. We welcome back our Year 6 students and our new Year 5 students. The newsletter will contain important dates to remember for the term as well as curriculum details. The teachers contact details will be at the end of the newsletter and we encourage you to note these for ease of contact and for any queries that may arise. We encourage contact at all times. Please feel free to contact your class teacher directly in any instance of concern. If at any time this does not address the matter to your satisfaction then contact the Team leader for an appointment. If this still does not satisfy you then please contact the Principal or Deputy Principal. We ask that you follow this procedure as you will be notified of the correct procedure.

Term One is always a busy time as we are getting to know your child and a lot of testing takes place. If you are going away for any time during the term please let us know so that we may work around these needs.

We always need help in certain areas, particularly with Parent Reading and sports trips. Keep an eye out for notices and if you are willing to coach or transport then please let us know. At the end of the newsletter there will be a form to return asking you to fill in any areas you can help in. Our Year 6 Camp and Year 5 Activity Week takes place during Week 2 of Term 4 (October 21-23 2009). If you want to attend camp with your child these are the dates to note. Last Year we offered parents the choice of drip payments throughout the year to ease the burden of camp costs. The cost will be around the \$250 mark so if it suits you to do this then you may organise it with the office at any time. We look forward to our working relationship with your child and yourselves this year.

#### **Curriculum Activities:**

##### **Mathematics:**

This term we will be covering the Statistics strand. We will look at the interpretation of a variety of graphs and the ability to create them from statistical data.

Our Numeracy strand will be Addition/Subtraction. The children will be grouped at their stage level within the class and moved as they progress. Your child may move groups within the term at any time the teacher feels they need to. There is a new homework book this year and they have been given the number needed according to their stage in maths or as close to as the resource allows to in Numeracy. Timetable knowledge is considered vital and we will cover it daily during mental activities but also encourage you to help at home if they have any needs. Children with learning needs may be given alternate work if needed.

##### **Reading:**

We encourage SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) daily as reading mileage is important. Our teaching focus though will be discussing and learning about "Inference" and author's intent in text. Students will cover this focus during the term in small teacher directed groups. They will also have accompanying independent activities as follow up.

**Language:**

The students will be encouraged to write daily in SSW (Sustained Silent Writing). This will take the form of diary writing to start with and they will have a focus goal to accompany it. We start with basic punctuation and their ability to recognise and use the correct forms.

Our writing focus and teacher directed grouping will look at Narrative writing and the language features required for effective script. During independent activities the children will have activities to practice such as word study skills, dictionary skills and handwriting skills.

**Integrated Topic:**

Our topic theme this term is “It’s all about us”. We will be looking at our place in our families, classroom, society and focus on the value of respect. We are looking at students recognising how their actions affect others. The individual classes will follow activities that branch out from brainstorming discussions or individual desires. This allows the students individuality and we are encouraging them to recognise and follow through the different stages of learning. Support and guidance by teachers or peer teaching will occur as needed.

**Visual Art:**

This term we will be focussing on the various ways we can use a pencil for effectiveness. We will conclude with portraits of all students. We are very lucky to have the opportunity to be involved with Graham Dodd an experienced artist who will give an integrated demonstration for our team. This takes place on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February. Week 1 and will cost the students \$4.00 each. We would like all students to attend as it is part of our curriculum learning this term.

**PE/Sport/Fitness:**

This term we will be working on consolidating skills during PE times involving small ball development such as catching, throwing and batting. Our minor games during Sport will reinforce this with Tee Ball, Rounders and Non Stop Cricket. Our fitness involves running for endurance and small ball games. This term we will also be doing a lot of team building games and activities.

**ICT:**

Teacher directed classes run by Shannon Corsan covering a variety of skills and integrated with our terms theme.

All other curricular areas will be integrated into our topic work or class programmes ie: Maori, Technology, Science as or if it fits in with topic.

Regards Team Two Teachers

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**Important Dates to Remember:**

- **Week One** –Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February Graham Dodd Artist (\$4)
- **Week Two** –Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February Meet the Teacher 6.00-7.00pm
- **Week Four-** Wednesday 25 February Team1 & 2 swimming Sports (Base Pools)
- **Week Five-** PAT Testing (2-6 March)
- **Week Ten-** Term One Report out(Social Skills and PAT results)

**Please fill in and return form below by Friday 13 February**

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**Parent helper List:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Details** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Reading:** This involves coming 1-3 times a week to read with a child approximately 6 months below their chronological age for 20 minutes at a time. A training session will be given prior. Ideally 11.50am-12.40pm would suit best but can accommodate other times.

I am able to read with a child on these days at these times \_\_\_\_\_

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**Sports teams:**

I am able to offer coaching in these sports areas as required \_\_\_\_\_

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Other areas I may be able to offer assistance: \_\_\_\_\_

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To all parents please list an e-mail address if you have one and would like to be able to have contact with your child's class teacher.

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Please list below any concerns or queries you may have that you feel you would like addressed at the Meet the Teacher night on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 6pm.