

Team 3 Newsletter, Term 1 2010

A warm welcome to 2010 and a big welcome to those children who have moved up to Year 3 and those who are new to Whenuapai School. We have a very busy, but exciting year ahead. This newsletter will outline our programme for this term, as well as giving you lots of information about how things work in Team 3.

Staff:

We have five classes in Team 3 consisting of Year 3 and 4 children.

Mrs Angela James is in Room 9 (Team Leader)

Miss Michelle Lawry is in Room 10

Mrs Janine Robson is in Room 11

Mrs Karen Falconridge is in Room 12

Miss Lisa McIntyre is in Room 13



Communication:

We value your input into your children's education and are very keen to establish strong lines of communication between home and school. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's schooling please make an appointment to see your child's teacher. Before school time is very busy and teachers are not always able to best deal with your questions and concerns at this time. We can also be contacted by email. If your child is absent from school, or will be leaving early for an appointment, please ensure that the **class teacher and the office** are notified. (There is a sign in and out book to use).

Uniforms:

It is great to see all the children in their uniforms. Please check that all items of uniform are named (including shoes). Hats are compulsory in Terms 1 & 4. Please ensure that your child brings their hat everyday, as children without hats are required to sit in shaded areas when outside.

Stationery:

Just a reminder that all stationery items should now be at school. It is worth checking that your child has basic stationery such as pencils, glue, rubber and red pen, on a regular basis as these items are frequently lost or used up. The children are able to focus on learning when they have the correct stationery at school each day.



Arrival at School

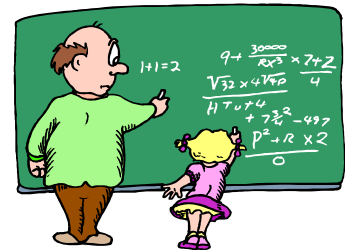
School starts at 9.00am. Children should arrive before this time in order to prepare for the day. Many have class responsibilities in the morning, and they need time to unpack their bags and organise their books. Encourage your child to complete these tasks independently.

Privilege Reward System:

Team 3 operates a positive reward system in each class called the Privilege Board. Each class has time on a Friday afternoon when the children get to select a short, fun activity to participate in. Children who make poor behaviour choices during the week are given warnings. After a child has had 3 warnings in one day about any unacceptable behaviour their name is removed from the Privilege Board. Once their name is removed from the Privilege Board they can get put back on by making good choices and improving their behaviour. Only children whose names are on the Privilege Board are allowed to participate in the reward time activity. At the end of each term we reward the children who have been on the privilege board all term by having a movie.

Homework:

Each child should have purchased a reading log and maths homework book. Children are expected to read each night and record their reading in the log independently. Please read the log with your child - it explains how to fill it in and has lots of great ideas to make reading fun. Depending on the reading level of your child, they may or may not bring a reader home each night. School readers are also only sent home in a book bag, so please ensure your child has theirs at school everyday. Spelling lists are given weekly, and the children are expected to learn their words each night. Parents are to tick/cross in the spelling notebook. For Maths, each child is to complete 2 pages from the book. These are assigned by the teachers and written at the top of each page. It would be a great help if parents could mark this for us. From time to time the children may have additional homework such as making a craft item, or related to our inquiry learning focus. Homework is sent home on Monday and needs to be returned on Friday.



Dates to Note:

PAT Testing - Week of 1 March

Term 1 Report - 29 March

Kelly Tarltons Trip - 16 & 17 March

Parent Help:

All offers of parent help are appreciated. We would like some parents to help run the Parent Maths and Reading programmes for our team. Please approach your child's teacher if you would like to help.

Brain Food:

The school allows children to **drink water and have 'brain food'** in class. This is to ensure that little bodies are well hydrated, and have enough 'fuel' to learn. Food items that are acceptable for brain food include dried fruit (NO nuts please), fresh fruit/vegetables (cut up, no oranges please - too messy ☺). NO muesli bars, chips, popcorn, roll-ups or biscuits are permitted for brain food.

Topics this term:

This year we are working on an Integrated Curriculum approach to classroom learning. The theme for 2010 is Our Life Long Learning Journey. In term one the focus is "Under the Ocean Waves". The children will be learning about how life is sustained in the ocean. The children will be continuing to learn how to use a variety of thinking skills and about how Inquiry Learning works. Our key competencies for the term are relating to others and using language, symbols and text. Our value is compassion.

In maths the Numeracy programme will continue to operate, as well as a unit on Statistics. Our P.E. skills are small balls with sport sessions involving summer ball games.

Wanted:

We would love to have supplies of newspaper, old shirts for art, magazines, jars, fabric, cardboard, ice-cream containers (with lids) and egg cartons on a regular basis. If you can provide these please see your child's teacher.

We look forward to a great year together. Again, please feel free to talk to us about anything to do with your child's education.

Regards

Team Three Teachers

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