

Mangawhai Beach School

Thursday 7th February 2013

Dear Parents & Caregivers of Intermediate Students,

Welcome back to school.

The following letter contains important information about upcoming events and also a few reminders about routines and expectations for your child while they are in the intermediate syndicate.

Homework - An example of a weekly diary entry is attached to this letter. We are going to encourage students to plan their weekly homework schedule in their diary in advance. It is important that you sign the diary where it says 'parents' signature as confirmation that they are managing their homework. More information is glued into their homework diaries.

Reading

It is beneficial for all students to be reading regularly at home. We visit the school library weekly and the local library is also free to join. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home for at least 20-30 mins at least 3 times a week. Students are expected to keep a track of what they have read in their homework diary (please see attached example).

Maths

The most effective maths homework the children can be doing is on the Maths Whizz program. This program is tailored to your child's learning needs via their initial assessment. Maths Whizz tutors students in new learning, then will take them back over examples if they fail the tests. Please encourage your child to spend **at least** three 20 min sessions on maths a week. If you have any questions about this program please ask the classroom teacher. If you do not have internet access or you cannot afford to join your child up please contact your classroom teacher and we can discuss other options.

All year 7 & 8 students should know up to their 12 timetables by now. If they do not, then this is definitely a homework priority and needs to be achieved before the end of term 1.

Spelling

Your child's weekly spelling list will be stapled into their homework diary on Fridays. You will be able to see how your child went in their spelling test as this will also be included. If your child is unsure what spelling they are to learn please contact the classroom teacher.

It is very important that year 7 & 8 students learn to manage their time to include

homework. This will help them develop good study habits for high school. Please support them with this by checking their homework diary weekly and signing them before the teacher sights them on Friday. If you have any questions or concerns about homework please contact your classroom teacher.

Uniform

School uniform is compulsory. Black socks and black shoes are to be worn, or black sandals/jandals/bare feet. No coloured t-shirts are to be visible underneath school shirts i.e. hanging out below school shirts (black undershirts are acceptable). We encourage students to bring a spare set of clothes for sport, however school uniform is to be put back on afterwards. No nail polish or makeup is to be worn and all long hair is to be tied up. Stud-type earrings are allowed. School uniform hats are to be worn when outside. Please check that all uniform items are clearly named.

If for whatever reason your child cannot wear correct school uniform, please write them a note to carry around with them for each day they cannot wear it. Children not wearing correct school uniform without a note will be sent to the office to change.

Continued non-compliance with school uniform rules will result in detention.

Manual/Technology

This starts in week 7

Fitness/PE

We do a 20 minute fitness session three times a week. It is important that our students value regular exercise and have a 'give it a go' attitude. If your child has a valid reason for not participating in fitness or sport, please send along a note for each day they are unable to participate. This includes swimming. All students will be assessed on their swimming ability in the first 3 weeks of term. Please encourage your child to remember to bring their togs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Leisure Based Activities (LBA)

Starting in week 3, all Intermediate students will receive instruction in 2 of the following activities; surfing, golf, bowls, tennis, surf life saving or archery/target shooting. The purpose of these activities is to expose the students to some of the great physical activities available to them in their own back yard. They also may experience an outdoor activity that is new to them.

We cannot do leisure based activities without parent support. If you can assist us please send back the attached form. LBA will be on Thursdays and you will need to be available from approximately 1.00pm-2.45pm. This runs from Feb 21st until April 18th.

Syndicate Hike

We will be going on an outdoor education trip later this term. More information regarding this trip will be sent home closer to the time.

Important Dates

Friday 8th Feb - Traffic warden/Bus monitor training (selected students)

Thursday 14th Feb - New parents meeting

Tuesday 19th Feb - Meet the classroom teacher 6pm-7pm.

Thursday 21st Feb - Leisure based activities begin

Thursday 7th March (No LBA this week) - Year 5-8 Swimming Sports at Rodney College Pool (all students to participate).

Friday 8th March - Intermediate assembly item

Friday 15th March - Disco

Tuesday 19th March - Manual starts

Wednesday 27th March - School Triathlon

Tuesday 9th April Parent/teacher interviews 1pm

Wednesday 10th April Parent/teacher interviews 6pm

All of this information is on the school website calendar and updates go in the school newsletter also. Please try to read the weekly newsletter as it often contains important messages and reminders.

We hope that this letter provides clarity for you about upcoming activities and syndicate expectations. If you ever have any questions about homework, or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact us via email, a note, or ring the office and we will get back to you promptly. Please also visit our school website for useful information and dates.

Thank you for your ongoing support with our school activities, and your child's learning.

Kind regards,

Natalie Epsom, Andrea Fulton & Jaimee Fletcher - Intermediate Syndicate Teachers

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WEEK 22		ACTIVITIES/THOUGHTS/COMMENTS	Number Of Days
Beginning Monday:	17/08/12		
MON 17/08	Maths whizz 20 mins Reading 20 mins	Reading Material/Title: Under the Mountain (u.t.m) Time/Page/Chapter: chapter 3-5	1
TUE 18/08	Tennis Reading 20 mins, Spelling 10 mins.		2
WED 19/08	Maths whizz 20 mins Spelling 10 mins Timestables 5 mins		3
WORLD FACTS: The Taj Mahal is a famous monument built in which country? A Malaysia B <u>India</u> C Indonesia D United States			

For information and answer, visit: www.kluwell.com

J O K E	Question: What came after the stone age and the bronze age?	Answer: The sausage!
THU 20/08	Reading 20 mins Maths whizz 20 mins Spelling 10 mins.	Reading Material/Title: u.t.m Time/Page/Chapter: chapter 6-7
FRI 21/08	Spelling 10 mins Timestables 5 mins	
SAT-SUN		
	COMMUNICATION: I'm going to read Under the Mountain this weekend and hopefully finish it! Parent's Signature (Sign below)	Great time management this week Sarah. 😊 Teacher's Signature (Sign below)

Parent Help: Leisure Based Activities
Thursdays 1.00pm-2.45pm Feb 21st to April 18th

I would like to offer my help with Leisure based Activities

Parent Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Mobile: _____

Landline: _____

As always, without parents, our students would not be able to experience such activities. We appreciate your offer and thank you for your support.

