

Senior Syndicate Newsletter: Term 4

Dear Parents, Whanau and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 4. We are looking forward to another exciting and productive term with your children. We welcome back Mr Coker from his study leave to Room 10. I (Susan Butler) will be continuing in the role of Syndicate Leader. Please find outlined below a general idea of what your children will be learning in their classes this term.

Literacy:

In oral language we have a focus on building and gaining confidence to speak to an audience. Students will be delivering speeches in class in preparation for syndicate speeches and the school wide speech competition.

In writing students will be learning to write independently for sustained periods of time. They will learn to be selective and record thoughts, feelings and ideas clearly to write. We will also focus on planning and writing for a variety of purposes, with an emphasis on writing a narrative. Students will be able to write and illustrate their own narrative in the form of a Big Book for Junior or Senior. We will continue to focus on planning, drafting and re-crafting in their writing. Students at this level will be responding to feedback and thinking about where to next in their own learning.

In reading our students will continue to examine and think about the messages, themes and atmosphere authors create in a story.

Our spelling focus will continue for those on List 1 – 7 to learn through their homework programme the words at their level. (Year 5, List 1 - 5, Year 6 List 1 – 6). We will have a focus on the explicit teaching of the rules for apostrophes in contractions, possessive apostrophes, prefixes and suffixes.

Maths:

After looking at data gathered from term 3 the focus may be different in each class due to differentiated needs of the students. The focus will be on students learning and understanding the quickest strategy to use when solving word problems in the areas of addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, or fraction and decimals. We will also focus on the area of need in Knowledge. It is important your child knows their basic addition and subtraction facts, times tables and division with quick recall. Our strand focus will be length, area and volume in measurement.

Inquiry:

This term we are focussing on The Arts as our inquiry. Each class will look at a different artist where students will explore and inquire into an artist. Using the knowledge and ideas gained from the inquiry students will be designing and creating their own artworks. A kite and frisbee technology inquiry will be done in Rm 10.

PE/ Fitness/ and Health:

Our focus is Athletics for Week 1 – 4 (Run Jump Throw), as well as running activities and games in fitness. From week 5 - 8 we will have a focus on the sports around Wellsford Sports Exchange. The sports involved will be dodgeball, cricket, touch, basketball and t-ball. I will send a letter out closer to the date with more details and a request for any parent help or expertise in these areas.

It is a requirement that the students bring a change of clothes. Shorts and a basic T-shirt, girls wearing tights are acceptable. Sports shoes are a good idea for running activities. We ask that students have a change of clothes **every day** in their school bags.

Home Learning:

It is expected your child is reading every night at least 20 – 30 mins and completing a reading log. They will be required to learn their spelling words and be working on replay in Maths whizz. Notebooks will go home on a Monday and returned to school with your signature on the Friday.

Rm 10 Quiz homework site please visit and attempt the questions-
http://classroomquiz.net.nz/rsc/Activity_Sheet_06-10-2014.pdf

This can be done into their homework notebook and we will mark together in class.

It is important to talk to your child about their learning, as they should be able to tell you what they are focusing on at school. If they are unsure feel free to touch base with your child's teacher. Please don't hesitate to ask myself or the classroom teacher if you need anything clarified.

Regards

Senior Syndicate Team

Ms Susan Butler, Mrs Andie Gore and Mr Lance Coker

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