

Senior Syndicate Newsletter: Term 4 2015

Dear Parents, Whanau and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 4, 2015.

Please find outlined below a general idea of what your children will be learning in their classes this term.

Camp dates 2015: The venue for the Senior Syndicate Camp is Marsden Bay Youth Camp. It will be held from the 18th – 20th November. The cost of the camp is \$140.00 and payments need to be made to the office. Automatic payments can also be set up through the office. If you are having trouble with payments for any reason please contact me so arrangements can be made for your child to attend the camp. A Camp Health details form is attached along with a suggested camp gear list. Please complete the Health Form and return it to your class teacher as soon as possible. It is important you let me, or your classroom teacher know if your child for any reason is not going to attend camp. I can be reached on sbutler@mangawhaibeach.school.nz.

PE/ Fitness/ and Health: In P.E our focus will be small ball skills around the Wellsford team sports. We are lucky enough to have cricket coaching in the school for the first 4 weeks. Our students will be using the new fitness trail during our fitness times. Due to our camp in Week 6, our Health focus is on cooperative activities, including others, and working as a team.

It is a requirement that the students participate in fitness and P.E. as it is part of the curriculum. Students will also need to bring a change of clothes, shorts and a basic T-shirt for fitness, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our P.E. time is (Wednesday 11.30am – 12.30am.). I suggest a change of clothes in their bags on a daily basis would be a good idea.

Please also ensure your child has a school sun hat daily.

Inquiry: This term we are focussing on understanding the impact of globalisation and technology over time in professional sport. We will look into identifying and exploring issues associated with globalisation in sport by understanding how globalisation is linked to sport and technology and the effect this has had over time?

Ag Day Art: The first two weeks of the term we will focus on Art for our Ag day.

Literacy: Students will be focussing on practising for their upcoming speeches. In writing students will continue to write independently for sustained periods of time. They will learn to be selective and record thoughts, feelings and ideas clearly to write on a variety of subjects. We will continue to focus on planning, drafting and re-crafting in their writing. We will also continue to look at the structures of sentences in more depth and how they impact our 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. They will also be learning to skim read for key words and phrases to find meaning.

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).

Maths: After looking at data gathered from the end of 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 fractions 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 in Statistics and Measurement.

Home Learning: It is expected your child is reading every night for at least 20 – 30 minutes. This may include library books, newspaper, magazines and Reading Eggs. Students will also be required to learn their spelling words, practise and learn their times tables and replay in Maths whizz. Notebooks will go home on a Monday and returned to school with your signature on the Friday.

It is important to talk to your child about their learning, as they should be able to tell you what they are learning at school. If they are unsure feel free to touch base with your child's teacher.

Kind Regards

Senior Syndicate Team

Ms Susan Butler (Syndicate Leader), Miss Kirsten Burr, Mr Lance Coker.

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