

## **Senior Syndicate Newsletter: Term 2 2016**

Dear Parents, Whanau and Caregivers,

Please find outlined below information that will help you support your child in their learning this term.

**Literacy:** Having your child read on a regular basis is something we encourage at school and home. It is important your child is reading every night for at least 20 – 30 minutes. This may include library books, newspaper, magazines or Reading Eggs. . Students will also need to learn their spelling words. 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). Students who have mastered these lists and are able to transfer them into their writing successfully will go on to learn List 7 and 8. Once your child has mastered all of the lists they will go on to choosing words of interest to them, which is closely monitored by their teacher. All lists can be found on the M.B.S. webpage. Notebooks will go home on a Monday and returned to school with your signature on the Friday.

**Maths:** It is also really important to support your children at home in learning their times tables and basic addition and subtraction facts. We find that with the knowledge and quick recall of these basic facts students are better equipped to learn new concepts in maths and are more capable in using their knowledge to use different strategies and solve maths problems. Putting a set amount of time a day to go over these is a good way to support your child. It is also important that students work at least 15 mins a day for homework on Maths Whizz in Replay mode. Replay mode supports the learning they have had at school and enables them to practise in the areas of need.

**Inquiry:** Our focus for this term is to understand the reasons we have refugees and their impact on a global scale. We will guide the students through questioning so they are able to, at their level define what a refugee is using technical vocabulary, explain the reasons we have refugees, describe how it may feel to be a refugee and explain the impact refugees have on people on a global scale.

**Options:** Last term we trialed Friday options for those students who did not attend Sports Development and Art Extension. We offered, IT with Mrs Browne, Enviro with Miss Low and Miss Epsom, Drama, with Miss Burr and Miss Epsom and Literacy with Ms Butler. We found this was very successful. Students were engaged and keen to head to their option classes on a Friday morning. It was a great way for students to interact with others in the syndicate and teachers also to interact with different students. Because of the success we are continuing with this for term 2. Students have been put into another option for the term and will change again next term. We are able to do this, and keep class numbers small due to Mr Wynard taking a group for Sports development and Janet Hampson taking Art extension classes at the same time.

**Physical Education:** It is a requirement that the students participate in P.E. as it is a part of the curriculum. Students will need to bring a change of clothes, shorts and a basic T-shirt for P.E. times every Wednesday.. Sports shoes are a good idea for running activities but not compulsory. Our focus this term is Winter Sports Skills. From week 1 - 5, we will be learning the ball skills associated with, netball, rugby, hockey, soccer and basketball in our class groups. From week 6 - 10 students will then move into a sport of their choosing, (depending on numbers) and focus on the skills and game of that sport. This is so we can pick teams to represent our school in the Winter Sports Team Challenge, when we play against Wellsford in week 9.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP....**If you have any expertise or interest in the sports mentioned, Rippa Rugby, Basketball, Netball, Soccer, or Hockey. We would love to hear from you. We would ask you either coach or support coach in one of these areas every Wednesday between 11.30 am 12.30 pm from (week 6.) 8th of June. through to (week 9) Wednesday 22 June and then at our Wellsford Sports day- Friday 24 June. If you are able to assist in any way please contact Ms Susan Butler, (Syndicate Leader) via email, [sbutler@mangawhaibeach.school.nz](mailto:sbutler@mangawhaibeach.school.nz), or phone the office and leave a message.

Finally, 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. Please feel free to touch base with myself or your teacher if you have any concerns. We look forward to a wonderful busy learning filled term.

Kind Regards

Senior Syndicate Team

Ms Susan Butler (Syndicate Leader), Miss Kirsten Burr, Mrs Jaimee Browne and Miss Rebecca Low.

**Contact details:**

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