

Senior Syndicate Newsletter

Welcome to all students, parents and caregivers. We have an exciting year ahead. The Senior Syndicate is now Year 5 & 6 students. We have moved location this year and are now in Rooms 12, 13 & 14.

School Bell Times: It is essential that your child is at school and ready to start *before* 8.45am.

Some Year 6 students have responsibilities e.g. Road Patrol, Milk Monitor etc that require them to be at school by 8.15am. Please ensure they are organized and on time. If your child arrives at school before 8am they *must* go to the office to wait.

Here is a list of school timings. The bell only rings three times a day to let children know it is time to go to class.

- 8.45am School starts/Class time
- 10.25am Morning Tea/Playtime
- 10.45am Class time
- 12.30pm Lunch eating
- 12.40pm Lunchtime
- 1.10pm Class time
- 2.30pm Home time

Swimming: Your child will need to bring their togs and towel each day, no matter what the weather. Your child's teacher will make the call whether to swim or not on the day. If your child is not swimming for any reason then you need to provide a note to explain. It is important that we take advantage of all swimming opportunities.

Sun Hats: This term hats are compulsory and children without hats are required to sit under the shade sails during all break times. Please make sure your child's hat is clearly named. Wide brimmed hats with under chin straps are best.

Uniforms: Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform to school each day. If there is a time when this is not possible your child must carry a note to explain why.

Your child's uniform shirts, shorts and hats (as well as footwear, togs and towels) should be clearly named in a durable manner (e.g. vivid). This can ensure a return of lost property. This is especially

important during swimming season.

Sickness: If your child is unwell, please keep them home. We like to share, but there are some things we should try to keep to ourselves. Children need to be getting adequate sleep so they can focus at school. Please help your child's learning by making sure they are organised and ready for school each day.

Bikes & Scooters: Children are encouraged to ride their bikes & scooters to school. Each fine Friday we have Wheels Day at lunch time where your child is invited to ride their bike, scooter, roller skates or skateboards in a designated area. Please name your child's items where possible. Helmets are compulsory for bikes and skateboards.

Extra curricular activities: There are team sports and lunchtime activities which children can join. We fully recommend encouraging them to participate and learn new skills.

EOTC (Education Outside The Classroom): Coming up in week 6 we have Tent City. We will attend other EOTC activities throughout the year. More detailed information and costs will be coming home as soon as dates are confirmed. We will need your support for these activities, please let your child's teacher know if you are available to help in any way.

Whanau Hui: This is your opportunity to discuss all aspects of your child (likes, dislikes, friendships etc) that we might not know. It is important for us to know what things may influence their learning and time at school.

Friends of School (FOS): Are looking for people with new, fun or creative ideas (and anyone who likes to help behind the scene) to help raise funds that support events and equipment in our school. Please contact your classroom teacher for info.

Helping With Reading At Home

Children will bring home a book they are interested in. This book will not be a book that they have read with us at school. Please do not expect them to be able to read it fluently to you.



Three Ways You Can Engage With Reading At Home

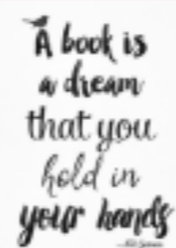
Please let your child guide this process.

Read Independently

Your child may like to just sit down with the book they have chosen and browse at it by themselves, this is perfectly ok. They can read the pictures, remember the story, or you may notice they start to actually read it. Allow them a quiet space where they can do this, you may like to try even reading a book that you love at the same time as them.

Reading With

Your child may like to read the book with you. You can read a part, and they can read a part. If they make mistakes, please don't correct them. If they ask for your help, please help them. If they ask what a word says, please tell them. If they make up the story, let them. If they want to talk about the story, please talk with them. Children learn so much through talk. If a concept in the book interests them, perhaps explore this further. Youtube is great for this.



Reading To

Simply read the story to them. Enjoy the book, talk about it, let them listen. If it is something that interests them, see if you can explore it further.



Interest

The Key In Helping Children Learn To Read

Children should never feel forced to read, or anxious about their ability to read. Reading should be fun and they should be able to select books that interest them, just as we as adults choose to read books that interest us.

Leave the teaching of reading for school. Reading at home is a time to share the joy of books, not to sit beside children and put pressure on them to get it right. Children will ask for help when needed. If they don't know a word, they will have tried to work it out, before they ask for your help. Encouraging them to 'work it out' only reinforces the fact that they don't know. Next time they will not ask for your help.

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If you have any questions or need to contact the school about your child, please email your child's teacher, or phone the school office 06 377 5297

Calendar of Events—Keep this calendar handy!

February	March	April
<p>Waitangi Day 6 February</p> <p>Whanau Hui—Meet the Teacher Tues 12th & Weds 13th February Please book a time through the office.</p> <p>Wings over Wairarapa STEM trip Friday 22nd February (Helpers needed!)</p>	<p>Masterton Swimming Sports Wednesday 6th March</p> <p>Tent City & Whanau Picnic Thursday 7th March</p>	<p>End of Term 1 Friday 12th April</p>

What's On in Term One?

Wings over Wairarapa

This term we have the opportunity to visit the Masterton Aerodrome on Friday the 22nd of February. The whole school will be attending Wings Over Wairarapa to gain an insight into the Science and Technology behind air planes and aviation. We will require parent helpers to escort us.

This will be a fantastic opportunity to take a look at what Wings Over Wairarapa has to offer before it opens to the public at noon.

If you are interested in coming along and helping engage our tamariki with this amazing learning opportunity, please see your class teacher.

More details will follow in the school newsletter in the coming weeks.

Tent City/Whanau Picnic

We will be holding our annual overnight stay, 'Tent City' on Thursday 7th of March. This cannot go ahead without parents to help us supervise. We also need tents to sleep in! If you can send a tent we require you to be on site to put it up.

Year 6 Camp Meeting

Parents of Year 6 students are invited to attend a meeting in the coming weeks to find out details about Year 6 Camp. It is important you attend this meeting with your child who is attending the camp.



Digital Learning

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This year we are using several different digital learning platforms to help enhance our learning experiences. We will be using them in the class, but they will also be accessible from home.

Class Dojo

We will continue to use the Class Dojo (app or website) this year. You will have access to a space exclusively for your child where you they are able to post evidence of their learning. You are also able to see if your child is gaining points for positive behaviour and learning. You are also able to message the Class Teacher through this app.

Reading Eggs/Eggspress

To support your child's learning in Literacy (Reading/Spelling/Writing/Vocabulary) we will be using Reading Eggs/Eggspress (website). Tasks are set at the correct level for your child by the Teacher. Your child can log in at home as well as at school to practise skills & complete set tasks.

Maths Buddy

This is a new programme (a website) that we are running this year that supports students learning and understanding of all areas of the Maths curriculum. Teachers will implement this later in the term. Please be aware that your child can log in to this at home to complete any tasks or practise skills they may need to develop.

And finally...

StudyLadder

This website is another tool we use to practise skills in all areas of our learning. This is accessible at home and children are welcome to use it at home to increase their knowledge in a range of curriculum areas.

We hope you join the Class Dojo and maintain close contact with your child's weekly learning experiences. Any queries can be addressed to your child's teacher via email or you can pop in and see us anytime.

Thanks

Senior Syndicate

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