

Room 4 Newsletter #1 Term 1 2019

Welcome to Room 4. A special welcome to those new to our school. We hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for a productive and happy year.

Mrs Sue Smith will be working in Room 4 Mon - Thursday, and Mrs Charlotte Williams on Fridays.

We look forward to meeting you soon!

Through the class newsletter we hope to provide insight into the different activities your child is involved in at school, and to share their successes with you. We hope that provided with this information you will be able to be part of your child's learning, at home and at school - by discussing topics with them, encouraging them to bring relevant items to school and sharing your enthusiasm for learning. We are looking forward to a successful and fun year.

These first weeks back at school are a settling in time - children need to get back into routine, and will probably be exhausted when they get home, especially if the weather is hot! So relax and take it easy - the only 'homework' will be reading books and (for some children) sight words to revise.

We will be having sun safety and water safety lessons this term while the weather is fine, so please remember to apply sunscreen and to send (**named**) togs and towel **every day**, thanks!

During the first few weeks of this term we are getting to know your child and finding out where they are in reading, writing and maths. Do not worry if your child brings the same book home for reading a few days in a row! It is beneficial to re-read familiar text as it builds confidence and fluency. There will be a lot of re-arranging of groups at the start of the term so enjoy reading **to or with** your child in a non-stressful atmosphere. Do not expect your child to be able to read the book he or she brings home. It is fine if they just look at the pictures and talk about them. The main thing is to enjoy reading with your child.



A reminder to all about book bags - these go home each night to 'protect' the reading book and need to come back each day. We will not send home another book if the previous one is not returned or if there is no book bag to put it in. Each reader costs the school approximately \$10 so they are precious!

As we move through this term you will find activities coming home that will reinforce what we have been learning in class. Please keep these in the bookbag so you can practice daily, and we can update them as needed.

Thursday is "Discovery Learning Day"

This year the Junior classes will continue to join together on Thursdays for **Discovery Learning**.

This not only enables children to mix with other students and try new activities, but it also lets them spend quality, sustained time in areas they enjoy, such as role play, art, woodwork or music. This is often when 'messy' play happens, too - science experiments, mud kitchen, group art or explorations, so packing a change of clothes can be helpful!

Friday News or 'Show and Tell'

This is an important part of our Oral language programme, and all children are encouraged to participate.

Please help your child think of something they could talk about e.g holidays, trips, special occasions or events in their lives, or bring in a photo or object to pass around.

We focus on asking and answering questions such as **When? Where? Who? What? or Why?**



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Independence

Right from the early years you can help your child to develop independence and encourage responsibility for their belongings by expecting them to hang up their own bag and put all their belongings (their Book Bag, Communication Notebook and drink bottle etc) away in the correct places. At the end of the day you can continue to develop these skills by letting your child pack and carry their own bag.

Uniforms

Please ensure every item of your child's clothing, including togs and towel is named, including footwear.

Use a permanent marker pen on the tag but we also suggest that you write on the fabric inside the waistband as well. Your child needs their **sunhat** every day - morning tea and lunch time - or they will be unable to play. **No hat = No play!** We find it is easier for children to leave their sunhat at school each night so they don't forget it. Kids Klub students also need another sunhat (which stays at Kids Klub).



PMP Program

PMP or the Perceptual Motor Program is a physical education program designed to develop the children's fine and gross motor skills. The children participate in many activities such as walking on lines, heel-to-toe, climbing through obstacles, whole-body rolling and ball bouncing.

Our PMP program will be starting for all junior classrooms in Week 6 (4th March)

We welcome all helpers!!

If you can spare an hour and a half once a week, and are interested in helping please contact the office.



This Term Room 4 will be learning about...

PE & Health: Water Safety, Sun Safety

Inquiry: How to be Amazing Learners

Numeracy: Number, Geometric shapes, Statistics

ICT /Library: Knowing my way around

Reading: Guided reading groups

Writing: Personal experience, labels, lists

Spelling: Sight Words

Art: Drawing, painting, construction

Music: Singing

Te Reo: Karakia, greetings and classroom commands

Dates for Your Diary

12th & 13th Feb Whanau Hui
(Tell us about your child)

22nd Feb Wings Over Wairarapa Visit

7th March Whanau Picnic on the field

26th & 27th March *Learning Conferences

12th April Last Day of Term 1

29th April First day of Term 2

* Not every child - you will be contacted if this applies to you 😊