



Welcome to Term Three. We hope you had a nice break from school.

This term we start with a smaller group of ten children as the older children move to Room 6

This term we have the Art Show to prepare for, our unit on *Our Bodies* and we are planning Syndicate Folk Dancing.

As always, if you have any questions please ask. We will continue to work closely with Room 1 and participate in regular syndicate activities.

We run a Playbased (Learning through play) Environment and work collaboratively to plan, teach and assess. Some **food for thought**:

\***Play** is an essential part of a child's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development.

\***Play** is a vital part of every child's development.

\***Play** allows children to test ideas, work through uncertainties, explore social interactions and make sense of the world around them.

\***Play** has no predetermined outcome or time limit. It is not about an end product but about a process. It's the exploration of ideas that is crucial.

\***Play** is children's work.



## Independence

This covers everything from self-management skills to social skills in the play ground. Your help in the area of independence is greatly appreciated. Think about how you can give your child responsibility and independence. You can help by encouraging your child to:

- \***pack/unpack their own bag**
- \***help with jobs at home**
- \***get dressed/undressed independently**
- \***put on/off shoes by independently**
- \***talk about their feelings and problems in order to solve minor conflicts by themselves (using I statements).**

## TREASURES.....

We are always busy creating and making things in our classrooms. If you have any resources they would be well received by the children and much appreciated by us. Examples include wool, newspaper, ribbons, boxes and craft accessories.

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## We encourage.....

- \*Manners
- \*Individuality
- \*Communication
- \*Self managing
- \*Creativity
- \*Healthy lunchboxes
- \*Kindness
- \*Risk taking
- \*Being inquisitive



## WATER BOTTLES :

Please send everyday.



**Lost Property:** Please ensure all uniform and belongings are named.

**End of the school day:** It would be extremely helpful to us if you could wait outside the classroom until your child is released as it becomes very distracting during pack up time. It is important for our tamariki to manage themselves during this time, gathering their belongings and packing their bags independently. We are more than happy to chat after the bell has gone.



**NITS** unfortunately are a fact of life. Please check hair regularly for nits & inform us if necessary.

## Golden Rules and Expectations

At MPS we encourage our tamariki to

- Be **\*MOTIVATED TO LEARN**
- Show **\*POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**
- Have **\*SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

**Literacy & Numeracy:** These 2 areas will be integrated through our "learning through play" focus. We will have a variety of options and opportunities for the children to engage in.

**Literacy:** our main focus, as always, will be for the children to learn and utilise their alphabet, phonics and basic sight word knowledge. This is essential for both Reading, Writing, and Oral Language.

**Numeracy:** our main focus is on number knowledge with other strands of the curriculum integrated, e.g. measurement, geometry, statistics.

## Home Reading

We encourage reading every night but we also take into consideration the "readiness" of each individual. Our approach is varied for each child. Your child may have a reading book that they have read that day in class, one they have over two nights or one they have self selected.

**Please sign or comment on their reading and return each day.**

If you have any queries, please come in and see us, as we are more than happy to clarify.

We realise at times our little people are exhausted by the end of the school day and households are busy places. You can try different approaches.....

**let them read, read to your child, let them read to an older or younger sibling, but most of all try to encourage and make it an enjoyable experience for all.**

## Remember:

**School newsletters come home on Tuesdays in a paper copy to the eldest child from each family. They are also available electronically on our website and contain key dates and information you may need. You can also check out the school Facebook page for events.**

Our class sharing is through the Seesaw app. Please contact me if you have any problems signing up.



If you have a passion, skill or talent you are keen to share with our tamariki please let us know as we will be looking at what it means to be in a show and to be a good audience member.

We are excited to have another great term with you all.

Kind Regards

Tash McQueen.