

# Room 8 newsletter

Term 1 2021

*Kia ora and welcome to our room 8 whanau!*

It has been great to meet so many of you during the last few days when you have popped into school. For those of you I haven't met yet, I am Mrs Mandy Smyth. I have two children of my own, both active boys, aged 9 and 6. My out of school interests are wide and varied and include teaching dance, creating art and jewellery and working with the animals on my parents' lifestyle block.

I am looking forward to working with you and your child: and welcome you as an important part of your child's education. Please feel free to make contact if there is anything you wish to discuss - we do have **Whanau Hui in week 3 (17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Feb)**. We invite you and your child to come and spend 15 minutes of your time talking about the uniqueness of your child and family and to share what you would like to gain from the upcoming year at MPS. I look forward to meeting you at these, so please do book a time. I can also be contacted via Seesaw (see below) or at [smythm@masterton.school.nz](mailto:smythm@masterton.school.nz).



## **Uniform and sun hats**

Children need a wide brimmed sun hat every day this term so that they are able to play in the sunny areas of the playground.

Please make sure that all clothing items are named clearly with your child's name, especially if they are hand me downs from an older sibling or second hand items with another name in them. That way they can be returned easily if misplaced during swimming time or other parts of the day.

## **Water bottles**

Children are encouraged to have a water bottle to keep in the classroom so that they are able to stay hydrated during our learning times.

## **A bit of what is happening this term...**

This term there will be a strong focus on respect and independence in our class. We want to take responsibility for our learning and actions. We want a class where we are encouraged to think outside the square, using our initiative to extend ourselves. As part of this, Room 8 kids will be taking on more leadership roles and trying many new things in 2021.



## **Seesaw**

This year we will be using Seesaw across the school. Seesaw is an online learning journal which is private between you, your child and the class teacher. An invite is attached to this newsletter so that you are able to sign up to see the learning your child shares and any notices from room 8. If you have any problems, please let me know. Children always love to have feedback on their work. Please add positive comments on their

posts from time to time. Things that are shared from school can also be great conversation starters with your child.



### Swimming

We will be swimming each day for the next few weeks. Your child needs to bring their togs and towel every day even if it seems a little colder in the mornings. Our swimming time is after morning tea time so it has often warmed up by then. Please be rest assured that if the weather is still not suitable at our swimming time, we will not go that day.

### Home learning

This will begin later in the term. Please keep an eye out for messages about home learning on Seesaw.



## Upcoming dates

| February   | March                                  | April  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Whanau Hui-</b> Wed 17th and Thurs 18th February<br><b>Wings over Wairarapa-</b> Fri 26th February  | <b>Whanau Picnic-</b> Thurs 18th March | <b>Teacher only day-</b> Thurs 1st April<br><b>Good Friday-</b> Fri 2nd April<br><b>Easter Monday-</b> Mon 5th April<br><b>Easter break-</b> Tues 6th April<br><b>School Disco-</b> Thurs 15th April |
| <b>Reminders</b><br><b>Library-</b> Fridays. Please make sure library books are at school.<br><b>Assemblies-</b> Fridays 12.00 in the hall. Everyone is welcome. |  |  |

Finally, just a reminder that **school starts at 8:45**. All children find the start to the day better if they arrive before this and have time to organise their belongings and greet their teacher and friends before this time.

Please pop in and see me if you have any questions about anything, big or small, it's all important!

Nga mihi,

*Mrs Mandy Smyth*