



Welcome to Term 1, 2020

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. Welcome back to Term 1 2020.

We are looking forward to an incredibly busy term, with lots of new learning. A special welcome to our new children and their families. We have Kirsten, Ollie, Dominic, Hailey and Kailani starting in Room 1 with Miss Cranney and Mhaxene, Zoe, Xavier and Lucy starting in Room 3 with Mrs Woodbury.

We look forward to seeing you at the Junior School Curriculum Session on Feb 10th at 3pm, where we will explain our curriculum in more depth.

Curriculum-

This year we are approaching teaching and learning in a slightly different way. Each term the whole school will seek to answer the same inquiry question. The questions are:

Term 1

Wellbeing-How do I look after myself?

Term 2

Culture and Community-Who am I and who are we?

Term 3

Perspective and Opinion-How do I have my say?

Term 4

Think-How can I solve problems?

Each term we will explore the inquiry question using and developing the 21st Century Learning Skills of communication, citizenship, character, collaboration critical thinking and problem solving.

In Term 1 our focus will be leading a healthy life and strengthening personal wellbeing. We will explore the 21st Century Learning Skills of character, communication and citizenship.

We will also be exploring some of the National Days/Weeks such as Waitangi Day, Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Sea Week etc. through this focus.

What Will 21st Century Learning Skills Look For Junior Syndicate Students?

21st Century Skill: Communication

I am able to get information by asking questions.
I know what a good question is.
I know the skills to be a good listener.
I can share my ideas by making eye contact and speaking clearly.

21st Century Skill: Character

My brain is a tool for learning.
I know how to keep going when things are tough.
I know my actions affect others and have consequences.
I know that I can try more than one way to do something.
I know how to keep myself safe.

21st Century Skill: Citizenship

I am responsible for my learning.
I am responsible for my behaviour and feelings.
I am part of a community.
We all have a part to play in that community.
I know that everyone is different/special.

Please reinforce these skills at home.

Swimming and Dance



A big focus for us this term is our swimming sessions on Wednesdays 12pm from Week 3 and the Dance sessions Weeks 5-6 ending with a mini show.



For your
Calendar

Feb 10
Curriculum Session

Feb 19
First Swimming
Session

Feb 20
Beach Day

Feb 28
Wheels Night

March 30/31
Goal Setting
Interviews

April 2
Celebration of
Learning

Reading

Each child will read daily, with specific teaching to encourage the use of effective reading strategies. The children will be tested regularly to ensure their specific needs are met. Children's reading needs change rapidly across the year.

Writing

Each class will learn to write recounts based on their own personal experiences. Year 1 children will start to sequence events independently and learn to use adjectives, past tense, verbs and linking words in their writing. They will also be encouraged to use full stops and capital letters. Year 2 and 3 children will begin to include additional information about their ideas and use an increasing range of specific vocabulary and time connectives. They will use some basic punctuation with increasing accuracy. We will also learn to describe people and objects by using creative adjectives.

Spelling

The children will continue to learn how to spell, based on knowledge of sounds, development of vocabulary, and grammar. We use the common essential word lists in the children's spelling notebooks. Please help your child learn these common words on a weekly basis.

Maths

In Term 1, we will focus on developing number knowledge and addition and subtraction. We will also build a range of strategies that children can use to solve number problems. This term we will be learning about telling the time. Learning basic facts to 5, then 10, then 20 is one way you can help with maths at home.

Te Reo Māori

We will focus on using the correct kupu and tikanga for the body and use the sentence structure "He aha tēnei /ēnei?" and "He _____ tēnei /ēnei."

PE

During Term 1, the Junior Syndicate will be participating in swimming lessons at Kilbirnie Pool each Wednesday from Week 3 onwards.

R.E

We will be exploring the liturgical year with a focus on Lent and Easter. We will also be exploring human dignity through an integrated approach.

Ways to Help

Start of the Day

Children may enter the classroom at 8.10am. Please encourage children to organise their own belongings in the morning as this fosters independence. If your child is late, they miss a very important part of the day, which is class gathering time and prayers. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS ON TIME.

Parent Help

We are always looking for parents/ grandparents to help in our classrooms. If you are keen, please let your child's teacher know.

Yellow Reading Log

Please fill in the Yellow Reading Log each night and sign/comment as it is a vital link between school and home. If you have any questions please chat with your child's teacher.



Staff:

Room 1: Sue Cranney

Room 2: Sarah Maresca

Room 3: Kate Woodbury

Important Dates for the Junior Syndicate:

10 Feb Monday Junior School Parent Curriculum Information Session 3pm

19 Feb First of 8 weekly swimming sessions 12-1pm Kilbirnie Pool

20 Feb Beach Day Oriental Bay- Whole School

28 Feb Junior/Middle Wheels Night

16/17/19 March Trip to Island Bay Marine Centre- Date TBC

30/31 March Goal Setting Interviews

2 April Celebration of Learning

Seesaw App-

Home/School Partnership:

Our main form of communication with you each week is through use of the Seesaw App. Please ensure that you use the login details sent home to create your child's account. We will also call you or email if we have any pressing concerns and encourage you to do the same.

Reading Eggs App-

This year we will be using the Reading Eggs App instead of Mathletics. It is designed by the same company but has literacy as its focus. It is a fun way to improve reading and writing skills at home. Please encourage your child to use it every day. Instructions on how to log in will come home shortly.

Subway

Subway can be ordered each Wednesday. The order form is on the website.