



Rimu Team Newsletter

Term Two

2017

Dear Parents & Caregivers

We hope that all students and their families have had a great break; it was certainly pleasant to see the sunshine. This is a ten week term with a four day Queen's Birthday weekend from 2nd-5th June. The term ends on Friday 7th July.

Rimu Team

Our year 5-6 teaching team continues as in term one -

R.7 Mrs Pip Honore, R.14 Ms Cathrine Wilkinson, R.13 Miss Amber Pullin, R.8 Miss Melissa Julian

Mr Julian is the Deputy Principal who oversees the Rimu and Kowhai teams.

Curriculum

Last term our lessons about social chain reactions proved to be of great interest to the students and gave plenty of opportunity to reflect on, and apply, the school values. As students' social skills develop it is important that arising playground issues continue to be discussed in class, using the vocabulary and understandings that we developed in our social chain reaction studies. Time will always be found for this.

This term however our 'Chain Reaction' theme diverges into science where we will be exploring chemical chain reactions. The students will be observing reactions and grouping materials based on their physical and chemical properties. We have some exciting experiments to carry out.

Our reading programme this term will be in two parts. One part being a continuation of a group reading rotation where students work either with the teacher, independently responding to a text they've read, or working online through a series of reading challenges.

The second part of the reading programme will be the close study of a chapter book, read by the student. The student will be working on character, plot, setting and language.

The timetable will also allow for students to silently read books that they have selected for personal enjoyment.

The writing programme will be across all curriculum areas with a particular focus on explanation writing and editing for errors. The students will also be recounting personal experiences and studying excerpts of excellent writing. Children will write daily and there will be lessons on

grammar, punctuation and spelling.

The major focus this term in mathematics is extending students' knowledge and strategies for working with addition and subtraction problems. We will also cover measurement (length, area, perimeter, volume, weight and temperature). The work done in Dragon Maths books and on Mathletics will reflect these topics. Towards the end of the term we will move into multiplication and division.

This term Constable Duncan will lead off the Keeping Ourselves Safe unit of study, by teaching a lesson in each class. The teachers will continue this police devised programme until week four when Constable Duncan will return to each class to conclude the programme.

The Arts this term will involve the students moving between teachers to cover all strands of the curriculum. Miss Pullin will teach music, Miss Julian dance, Ms Wilkinson visual art and Mrs Honore drama. This will take place over two afternoons each week.

The school cross country day occurs in week 5 and so our fitness regime until then will be training. It would help if your child has safe, comfortable footwear for this challenge. Also in physical education we will work on large ball skills and games. We have some visiting sports coaches in week 4 who will provide skill training in basketball.

Rimu Reminders

◆ Puffer jackets cannot be worn in the classroom as the students need a warm layer to put on when they go outside. Heaters will be used in class, but fresh air is also necessary, so if your child finds the classroom temperature chilly please add some layers underneath.

The activity fee you have paid for the year has been partially used in term 1 for the Dragon Maths book, Mathletics subscription and the cost of the bus for those students who attended the football tournament. At this stage the only expense to be deducted from the activity fee is for the visiting author in book week.

If you have anything you wish to discuss with the classroom teacher, please free to make contact via the school email.

Regards

Pip Honore, Cathrine Wilkinson, Melissa Julian, Amber Pullin