

Rata Team



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to term 4, the last and busiest term of the year. It is a nine week term plus two days, and finishes on Tuesday 18th December. There is one public holiday, Labour Day, which is next Monday 22nd October.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you abreast of the learning overview, to provide reminders of upcoming events and to inform you about the activity fees for the term. Weekly reminders will also come home via the classroom homework sheet.

Curriculum

This term we have our fingers crossed for lots of sunny weather as there are several "Education Outside the Classroom" events planned: school concert, Athletics Day, Botanical Gardens, zoo overnight stay (year 4), beach education at Worsler Bay, NZ Playhouse performance and tennis coaching. As you can see these events encompass all areas of the curriculum. Please note that these events will be spread throughout the term and not confined to one EOTC week.

Literacy

The Reading Programme will continue as before with children having daily opportunities to learn in a group setting, in whole class sessions and as an individual, selecting material that interests them. The teacher will also read to the students novels or stories that relate to the class programme. This term there is a focus on poems and plays.

Grammar, punctuation and spelling will be taught through writing our own poetry and cross curricular work, and in specific language lessons. Students will write in all areas of the curriculum and they will write every day.

Maths

Basic maths facts will continue to be practised regularly as the students speed up their automatic responses. Students will be learning about position and orientation, probability, and revisiting, reinforcing and extending strategies and knowledge already covered this year.

Physical Education

The first part of the term will revolve around athletics and practising the skills of running, jumping, throwing and baton changing. This will continue beyond the school athletics day, which is scheduled for week 3 and is attended by year 4-8 students only. In the latter part of the term Rata will benefit from free tennis coaching provided weekly to each class.

Oral Language

The individual oral language presentations are ongoing and the last, very patient students, will have their opportunity to present in the first half of this term.

Homework

Homework will continue as per the classroom routine and in accordance with the school policy. Please check your child's book each week as there are always helpful reminders about upcoming dates.

Heads Up

School photos next week
24th and 25th Oct

Athletics (Yr4-8) Monday 29th
Oct

School Concert 8th 9th Nov

Gardens
14th (yr4), 15th (yr3) Nov

Zoo (yr4) 15th and 16th Nov

Beach Trip 27th Nov

Activity Fees Term 4

Year 3

Bus trips to school concert
rehearsals 9.00

Beach Education trip and bus to
Worsler Bay **Charged term 1**

Botanical Gardens 2.50
and bus 4.50

NZ Playhouse
Red Riding Robin Hood 4.50
\$20.50

Year 4

Bus trip to school concert
rehearsal 9.00

Beach Education trip and bus to
Worsler Bay **Charged term 1**

Bus to Athletics 4.50

Botanical Gardens 2.50
and bus 4.50

NZ Playhouse
Red Riding Robin Hood 4.50
\$25.00

At the beginning of the year all Rata parents were invoiced for \$100 as an estimated cost of activities for the year. We have spent slightly more than that amount, which leaves this much to pay:

Year 3 \$15.00

Year 4 \$20.50

Social

Our classes continue to emphasise self management and resilience, with encouragement and recognition of children's efforts. Last term the year 4 boys were spoken to about tolerance and fair play, especially at playtime and lunchtime, the year 4 girls were spoken to about the qualities of genuine friendship and I'm sure they'll be able to tell you what a wonderful role model 'Susie Sausage' is! It is greatly encouraging to see children genuinely managing these challenges of learning social skills.

General

This term is sunhat term and while we are still getting some inclement weather, we all know the sun will suddenly appear fierce and burning so it is a good routine for the children to settle into before that time. Please ensure they are clearly named. It is a good idea to apply sunscreen before school and if necessary to have their own supply in their school bag.

The road traffic at the start and end of school was far more manageable towards the end of last term, thanks in part to the completion of the road works but also to all those parents who are beginning to drop their children further away than the entrance to the school - much safer for everyone.

As the mornings slowly become lighter the students are falling back into the habit of arriving before 8.30. Teachers are busy at that time preparing for the day and supervision of early arrivals is a problem.

As you can read, this is a busy term and there will be plenty of requests for parents to assist with trips and events. Thank you in advance for being as available as is possible for your circumstances. If you have any concerns or queries about your child please email the teacher and arrange a time to catch up.

Regards

Pip Honore, Talia Davies, Sue Savage and Joy Henderson



Artsplash— one of the highlights of Term 3.