



Rata Team Newsletter



Term 3 2017

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(Team Leader)

Dear Parents, Caregivers and, Whānau

Kia ora and welcome to Term 3. We trust everyone has had a lovely break with their family. It has been wonderful to hear about what the children got up to over the holidays.

This is our third Team Newsletter which will keep you informed of the events and learning your child will be engaged in over the term.

Values and Key Competencies

This term we will be focusing on our school values 'Empathy, Responsibility and Respect' and the key competencies we are focusing on will be 'Relating to Others', 'Managing Self.' These will look different at each year level.

Literacy

At the Year 3 and 4 level, children are building their independence by learning to reflect on and monitor their own writing. Writing this term will focus on surface features (punctuation and grammar). Children will learn valuable skills in editing and re-crafting their writing at various stages more accurately, based on feedback given to them.

Later in the term, writing will take an integrated approach with Science. We will be recording information learnt about our 'Natural Disasters' theme, incorporating editing skills learnt.

Book Bingo: Again this term, as part of our reading programme, children are expected to work at their own pace towards successfully completing each level. This is a great challenge which encourages children to read a wide variety of texts. It further reinforces school values of Responsibility and Perseverance.

Weekly spelling will continue as part of homework. Each child has ten words to learn and testing will continue on Friday.

Mathematics

The start of Term 3 will see children learning to read and write the time in analogue and digital form and reading timetables. Practising these at home would be really beneficial to your child. Following this we will have a focus on Ratios and Proportions. Children will be looking at fractions of sets and shapes, and use fractions in everyday contexts. Towards the end of the term we will be looking at Geometry, with focuses on orientation, co-ordinates plotting and mapping. Basic Facts testing will continue daily (Year 4) and weekly on a Friday (Year 3).

Inquiry/Science

We will be exploring the Planet Earth and Beyond as part of our school wide inquiry focus 'Natural Disasters.' We will be

looking into the science behind Volcanoes, Earthquakes, Hurricanes and Tsunami, how these are caused and the effect it has on the environment.

Physical Education

The Rata team participate in daily fitness which will continue this term.

Physical Education sessions will focus on winter sports (basketball, rugby, soccer, netball and hockey). This is continuing on from last term as these sessions are weather dependant. It is also a good opportunity to participate as a team member in a range of activities, learning to manage appropriately, disappointments and celebrations as a team.

Arrival at School

Children are expected to arrive at or after 8.30am. Prior to this time, teachers may not necessarily be in their room to supervise your child as they are busy preparing for the day or in a meeting. Please note that learning starts at the

8.55am bell. We appreciate your support in your child's timely arrival at school.

The Arts

At the end of Term 2, your child would have brought home an Art Splash 2017 lyric booklet and a CD of the songs to practise. We're encouraging the children to learn the words to each song and practise as much as possible. Art Splash (mass singing concert) performance is on September 19th at 5:15pm at the Michael Fowler Centre. More information about tickets and the performance night will come later on in the term.

Oral Presentations

These will continue this term. We have been very impressed with the quality of the presentations so far, and appreciate the enormous effort that has been put into each one.

Homework

This will continue this term with the expectation of 20mins of homework per night. We understand that some afternoons are busier than others, so if there is problem with completing homework, please contact your child's class teacher. All homework books are given out each Monday and returned each Friday.

Communication

Please email your child's class teacher, in the first instance, should you wish to arrange a time to meet to discuss any concern you may have about your child. The Resolving Parent/Caregivers Concerns policy directs you in the process to follow if you any concern about your child. It is important to have positive and clear communication between home and school.

- Wednesday 13th September: Life Education programme starts.
- Tuesday 19th September: Art Splash Performance at the Michael Fowler Centre. 5:15pm start.

Dates for Term 3

- Friday 28th July: Year 4-8 Swimming Sports at Kilbirnie Aquatic Centre (9am-1pm).
- Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th August: School Photos.
- Monday 14th August: Avril McDonald author visiting the Pohutukawa and Rata Teams (Rose St)

Nga mihi nui (yours sincerely)

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(Rata Team Class Teachers)

Rata Team Term 3 Activity Fees 2017		
28th July	Yr 4 Swimming Sports - Entrance Fee/Bus	\$ 7.50
13th September	Life Education fee and booklet	\$ 5.00
19th September	ArtSplash - CD/Lyric Booklet/Rehearsal Bus	\$ 8.00
	COST per child	
	Year 3	\$13.00
	Year 4	\$20.50