

Welcome back to school

Included here are some notes to help you know what we are doing this term.

Shoes

To keep our carpet nice and clean we do NOT wear shoes in the classroom at all. When the weather gets cooler students are welcome to bring slippers if you are concerned about their feet being cold. They are not allowed to wear slippers outside and every effort is made to enforce this.

Three-way Conferences These are coming up very soon (Tuesday May 25th and Thursday 27th May) and we are looking forward to catching up with you to report on your child's progress to date. We would love to get some information from you prior to these so be on the lookout for a page to fill in.

Reading A guide to reading levels

In the first 4-5 terms of schooling we hope to have students complete Level 14. (approx. 1 year of learning)

When students move to Level 15 the progress through the levels tends to slow down as there is a huge amount of learning to do within these higher levels. (Levels 15-18 take approx. 1 year)

It is hoped to have Year 2 students reach Levels 17 or 18 by the end of Year 2.

COVID lockdowns have had quite an impact on these levels for many students and we are doing our best to help students close any gaps they may have. Regular home reading will help this to happen.

Learning Pathways

This term our main Learning Pathways topic is " Our place in the world". Among our discussions we will be covering New Zealand, Kiwiana, Pacifica and Matariki. If you have any ideas or information to share on any of these aspects we would love to hear from you. **We will also be covering the topics "Autumn", Road safety and Bullying.**

World Maths day

Mathletics had a special World Maths Day (today) on Wednesday 5 May. The Ruru students earned lots of points using Live Mathletics. The class enthusiasm was wonderful to see. If you are unaware of Live Mathletics you might like to ask your child to show it to you.

Yummy stickers and toothpaste/oral care items(toothbrushes,toothpaste tubes/packets/mouthwash bottles etc).

We are continuing to collect these.

Towards the end of the year they are sent off to the Yummy company and Colgate and they will send us free sports equipment/ credit. The more we collect the more equipment we get. We are helping the Enviro group with the collection of old oral care items.

Spelling

Our new individualised spelling notebook will come home today. Look out for it and ask if you have any queries. It has also been called Writing Practice as it is designed for the students to WRITE the words- not spell them out loud.

Class Speeches

This term we are going to have mini class speeches for any Ruru students that would like to have one.

THEY ARE TOTALLY OPTIONAL.

If your child would like to have one could you please help them write a simple one. The topic is "Fun I have had with my family (whanau)". They can read them from little cards- they do not have to learn them off by heart- or just talk about their fun time. There are no rules but please try and keep to under 1 minute. We will begin sharing them from Week 7 onwards- a few at a time, as they are ready to go.

Physical Education (P.E.) for Term 2 We will be using balls to learn bounce, pass and catch skills. So if you have time to play catch and pass with your child to enhance their skills please do so.

Also with Planning ahead in mind Near the beginning of Term 3 we will be having school Cross Country. For the 2nd half of this term we will be starting our fitness build up for this.

And if you want to help build up their fitness levels feel free to run around the house/ block/ park- wherever.

News

The students often like to have news...and we often run out of time to share this. So to make it fair we are going try a system where we allocate a day to each child and they can have their news on this day.

The days have been allocated as follows

Monday: Baylee; Lorelai; Sienna; Hazel; Bridie

Tuesday: Mason; Ella; Jessica; Nate; Aleya

Thursday: Theo; Riley; Logan; Isla; Annabelle

Friday: Malcolm; Zoe; Jack; Indie

This system will start next week.

Please DO NOT send toys along for news. They will NOT be allowed to share them. Perhaps they could bring a book, a photo, a picture, a nature find (leaf, stone etc)...or they can tell us something they want to share.

Sharing news is OPTIONAL. They do not have to share.

Thanks and please contact us if you have any queries or concerns.

Kerry and Angela

101 days of Maths

We have been learning about place value i.e. the place a number is in tells you what it is worth. e.g. 5 in the ones column is worth 5
5 in the tens column is worth 50

We are going to continue with this. We call it "101 days of Maths". To do this we add ice- block sticks to specially made containers each day. The big idea is to learn that no one "column (container)" can hold more than 9 sticks.

When the ones container/column has 9 sticks we can't put the tenth stick in the ones container... we have to make it into a ten and move it into the tens container. This understanding of Place Value is hugely important.

thousands	hundreds	tens	ones
	1	4	9

When we have reached our 101 days and we are going to PARTY to celebrate it.

On can you possibly send your child to school with sunglasses to add to our party. (if you don't have any spare, cheap sunglasses...don't worry as we have spares they can use).

We will also be making popcorn at school for this day. **The date will be Thursday 10 June.**

If you have a popcorn making machine that we could borrow can you please let us know.