

Junior Team Newsletter - Term 3 2018



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 3 2018! We are very much looking forward to seeing our Junior parents and students at the 3-way conferences this week and next. Parent involvement and commitment is so important to children's learning, and creates a wonderful home school partnership, so thank you all for attending.

A very special welcome to all the families who are new to the Junior Team, especially those children who are beginning school for the very first time. We know this is an important and special time. Beginning school can be a little daunting but everyone at EHS is here to help! Just ask if there is something you are unsure about. We want to make the transition to school the best it can be for your child. A very warm welcome to Mrs Louise MacDonald who has begun our fourth New Entrant class in A5, and welcome back to Ms Anne Pritchard who will start the next New Entrant class in C2 this term.

Class Programmes

An interesting and varied programme is planned for our classes this term. As a Junior Team we carefully plan teaching and learning programmes for all our children. Teachers endeavour to cater for the learning needs and social and emotional development of your child. At times you may have concerns or questions. Please see your child's teacher if you do have any queries, as we are committed to a strong home-school partnership.

100's Day

Our year one and two children will celebrate their 100th day at school this Tuesday 24th July. This is a fun way for classes that started in January to celebrate being 100 days smarter! Classes have had a focus on exploring number knowledge within 100, as they have tallied and counted daily to reach this milestone. Please refer to the notice sent out before the holidays for details explaining this event.

Inquiry

Inquiry learning is a process where students first explore, formulate questions, investigate, and then build new understandings that might be used to develop a solution.

This Term the Junior Team Inquiry is all about the concept of 'Diversity.'
Discovering and valuing the differences between people and other living things.

Within this Inquiry there will be chances for students to learn about Diversity in a range of contexts. One of the contexts that the Junior school will all explore, is investigating the diversity of bugs with a trip to Te Papa.

Physical Education

Our Physical Education focus this term is learning some new team games. Children will learn to take turns and work cooperatively, competitively and fairly. As children have regular fitness and P.E. lessons, suitable footwear and clothing is much appreciated. P.M.P (our perceptual motor skills programme) will continue to run on Tuesdays and Thursdays for New Entrant children.

School Values

In Term 3 we are continuing to focus on the EHS value of **Respect - We are aware and we care**. Please support your children in understanding and applying this value throughout the term.

General Information

Class Times

Just a reminder that classes commence at 8.55am. There is a morning tea break at 10.35 until 10.55am. Lunchtime is 12.30pm until 1.30pm. The school day ends at 3pm. Classrooms are open to children from 8.30am.

It is important that children arrive at school with time to put reading folders away, to hang bags up and bring water bottles and book bags into the classroom so they are ready to start the day when the bell goes. It is also good to allow some time for children to interact informally with their peers before the school day begins so they feel comfortable and confident.

Clothing

Please label all children's clothing, lunch boxes, drink bottles, etc. with their name and room number. This helps children to take responsibility for their belongings, and if things are misplaced they are more easily returned. We encourage you to provide your child with a change of clothes in their school bag, for accidents that may occur, or if they get wet or muddy playing during break times.

Home Learning

This varies from class to class and differs for Year 2, Year 1 and New Entrant children. Classroom teachers will keep you informed about their expectations. Generally, children take home their book bags with reading material daily, along with poetry, spelling and maths activities/basic facts relevant to the age of the child. Children's guided reading books need to be returned daily, as they are required for use within the class programme and in other classes. Please take extra care of the reading and library books that are sent home, as they are an expensive and a highly valued resource in our school.

Assembly

Junior assembly is held every second Monday afternoon beginning at 2.15pm.

You are very welcome to join us. The first assembly of the term will be Monday 30th July (2nd week back).

Parent Help

A special thank you to all those parents who have assisted in our classes and the junior book room. This is a wonderful help, and is greatly appreciated by all the teachers. If other parents would like to help in the book room putting reading books away, please talk to your child's classroom teacher and they will show you what to do.

Parents to help with the PMP programme are urgently needed for Term 3. If you would like to volunteer your time, or know anyone who would like to help on Thursday mornings for an hour, please let your class teacher know.

Environment

Teachers encourage children to take care of their environment. To promote this message we ask children to have reusable containers or bags for sandwiches, fruit etc. We discourage children from bringing plastic food wrap to school, and we appreciate the support you give to this initiative. We also encourage children to have water only in their drink bottles. Water fountains are available in the playgrounds to refill bottles.

Please check school wide newsletters regularly (either on the school website or paper copy) for upcoming dates and events that are happening at the school.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 27 July	Powhiri for new students to EHS - starts at 9.45am
Tuesday 24 July	100th Day at School Celebration for C, B and E Block
Thursday 26 July	3-way Conferences - school finishes at 2pm
Wednesday 1 August	3-way Conferences - school finishes at 2pm
1 August - 10 August	ASB Financial Literacy sessions with Captain Cashtastic
28 August and 30 August	Junior Trips to Te Papa (information to follow later)
Friday 28 September	End of Term 3

If you have concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher first. As a team, we are there to support and encourage your child in their learning, and to ensure they feel happy at school! We look forward to another fabulous term together!

Kind regards,

Junior Teaching Team