

# Junior Team Newsletter - Term 4 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Greetings for Term 4! A very special welcome to all the families who are joining us this term. Especially those children who are beginning school for the very first time. We know this is a special time, and we hope you enjoy your years with us in the junior school!

A very warm welcome to Mrs Cecily Chamberlain who has begun our sixth New Entrant class in H3. We are also lucky to have Mrs Megan Skelly, who regularly teaches with us in the junior school, now teaching full time in B4 as Miss Harris begins her maternity leave. Miss Jess White is the Year 2 Acting Team Leader during Term 4.

Term 4 is always a very busy and exciting term as we head towards the end of the year festivities. With the weather starting to improve, we will be making the most of it and getting outside as much as we can. There will be lots of communication coming home throughout term time about our events and activities. We hope you can take some time to join us for some of these events.

## Class Programmes

We have an exciting programme planned for our Junior classes this term that we hope the children will enjoy! 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.

### **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 'Sustainability.'

- Our actions have a lasting effect on the environment and we should protect it for our future generations.

Junior classes will be exploring and investigating the many ways in which we can look after our planet, our environment and our community.

### **Physical Education**

Our Physical Education areas for focus this term include:

- Junior School Fun Run - introduction to cross country running.
- Folk Dancing
- Swimming (beginning approximately Week 4)

Information regarding these events will be sent home as needed. Please keep an eye out for important emails and notices. Regular running practice, and daily fitness activities will happen within our classroom programmes in Term 4. It is very important that children wear suitable footwear and clothing, and have a water bottle at school. We thank you for your support with this. P.M.P (our perceptual motor skills programme) will continue to run on Tuesdays for New Entrant children.

### **School Values**

In Term 4 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**

Classes commence at 8.55am. The school day ends at 3pm. Classrooms are open to children from 8.30am in the morning.

### **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.

### **Sunhats for Term 4**

Sunhats **are compulsory** in Term 4. Please ensure your child has a **named** sunhat at school **every day**. Children without sunhats at school will be required to sit in the shade.

### **Home Learning**

We appreciate the time you take to support your child's learning at home. Home learning tasks vary from class to class, and differ for Year 2, Year 1 and New Entrant children. These home learning tasks will continue for most of Term 4. Classroom teachers will keep you informed about their expectations. 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 held on Monday, 5th November.

### **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. If you would like to volunteer to help with our P.M.P programme on Tuesday mornings, please let your class teacher know.

### **Enviro-Friendly Juniors**

We are a green-gold enviro school. We strongly promote and encourage reusable containers for sandwiches, fruit etc. We discourage children from bringing single use plastic food wrap and packaging to school. We appreciate the support you give to this school wide value. We also encourage children to have water only in their drink bottles. Water fountains are available in the playgrounds to refill bottles.

## **Junior Sandpit**

Our junior sandpit officially opens this term! A huge thank you to Tane Graham who has volunteered his time to plan and construct our junior sandpit this year, and to the Home & School committee who have very kindly supported and funded our sandpit. We have some very excited children! We are now looking to build a bank of resources for the children to use in the sandpit. If you have any of the following items that you are able to donate please send them along to Jacqui Graham in C1.

- old cake tins, or muffin trays, pots or pans
- old kitchen utensils - metal fish slices, soup ladles, whisks
- any off cuts of plastic drains, hoses or piping
- a sink for a mud kitchen

## **Dates for your Diary**

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.

Monday 15th October	Term 4 Starts
Friday 19th October	Powhiri for new students to EHS - starts at 9.45am
Monday 22nd October	Labour Day - school closed
Tuesday 23rd October	Teacher Only Day - school closed
Friday 26th October	Junior Disco (Theme - 'What I want to be when I grow up')
Thursday 8th November	Junior Fun Run Event - details to follow later
Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th December	End of Year Celebration Trips to Staglands (details to come later in the term)
Monday 10th December	Junior Football Tournament- details to follow later
Thursday 14th December	Junior Folk Dancing Display - details to follow later
Tuesday 18 December	Term 4 ends at 12.00pm

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**