

Kowhai Syndicate Newsletter

Term 3, 2019

22nd July 2019

Welcome back for the start of Term 3, 2019.

Welcome to Katelyn Tan starting in Room 9 this term and her family to St Benedict's School community and we are sure that you will all make them very welcome.

Winter uniform is worn this term: please remember to wear it with pride. Plain stud or sleeper earrings only, hair ties in school colours and always bring a jacket to school as the weather is less predictable in winter.

Our school values of empathy, perseverance, integrity and creativity are important to us and form the basis of all of our interactions others.

This term the value of creativity will align with our school-wide Art Exhibition. The focus is countries of the world. Please send an art shirt (adult T' shirt is ideal) for your child to have at school to protect their uniform.

Homework

We have noticed that a lot of students are not completing their homework. We appreciate that life is busy for many of our students with afterschool activities however homework provides two things, a link to what is being covered in class and an opportunity for your child to practise the new skills being taught. It should take no longer than 20-30 minutes daily. This includes the reading time – which usually consists of a book brought home from class (but can be combination of books given to them in class and also books of their own choice) for Year 3 and 4 students in Room 6, 7 and 8, and independent reading for Year 5 and 6 students in Rooms 8, 9 and 10. Please encourage your child to complete their homework and hand it in on time each week.

Punctuality

All students are encouraged to be at school between 8:30am and 8:45am. This allows them time to get themselves set up for the day and to chat to their friends. Arriving on the bell or after the bell doesn't allow students to do this important organisation for the day. The roll is taken at 8:55am in all classrooms. Students who arrive before 8:30am should remain in the library or outside in the playground if the weather is fine. No-one is permitted to be in the classrooms or corridors outside the classrooms before 8:30am as this is important preparation time for teachers.

ICAS Examinations

These take place this term. They are all over a two-week period. Entries are now complete. This year the exams can be sat over a three-day period but we don't envisage our dates changing from what has been outlined on the school calendar.

Regards

Nicole Simson	Jared Bath	Jacqui Miranda	Clare Short	Cheryl Taylor
Room 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9	Room 10

Kowhai Curriculum for Term Three

Topic:

Caring for our Earth

This is primarily a Religious Education unit looking how we can protect the precious gift of this Earth that God has given us.

Religious Education

As well as the above unit we will focus on The Assumption of Mary this term.

Mathematics

Number continues to be our major focus and this term we begin work through the strategies that we can use to multiply and divide numbers. We also continue to focus heavily on consolidating our **number knowledge, fractions, place value, ordering and reading numbers**. Practise with this at home will greatly support your child. Our study ladder tasks are set up to provide reinforcement in these areas.

Literacy

In Kowhai syndicate our reading and writing is closely linked to our topic study. This helps us to use our reading and writing as a learning tool. We will focus closely this term on being able to recognise the **language features** that author's use to paint a picture for their reader. We will focus on a variety of genre to cover this.

Te Reo

Te Huarere (the weather). This will link to our topic on Caring for the Earth.

Physical Education /Health

This term we have our school swimming sports as well as Gymnastics sessions at Nairnville. Please make sure that your child wears their PE uniform and sports shoes to school on their sports days. We will walk to Nairnville each week so it is essential that you child brings a raincoat to school on sports days. If the weather is really bad we do appreciate offers of rides to Nairnville so that we can all get there and back without being soaked.

Keeping Ourselves Safe

We will also be covering the NZ Police education unit **Keeping Ourselves Safe**. Keeping Ourselves Safe consists of a range of child protection resources to help children and young people learn and apply a range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others.

At year 1–3 Resources will help students to learn:

- A range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others.
- What they can do if they have been or are being abused.

At year 4–6 resources help students to learn:

- A range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with others.
- What they can do if they have been or are being abused.
- What happens when abuse is reported?

We will also include a cyber-safety focus as part of this unit.

There is a parent evening planned for **Monday 19th August at 6 p.m.** to inform parents about what will be covered during the programme. Alternatively you can check the NZ Police Keeping Ourselves Safe site

<http://www.police.govt.nz/advice/personal-and-community-advice/school-portal/resources/successful-relationships/keeping>

Dates to Diary

School Masses

Grandparents' Mass 10am Friday 26th July
Assumption Mass 9:30 15th August

Class Masses

Rooms 1 and 8 Wednesday 31st July
Rooms 3 and 10 Wednesday 7th August
Rooms 6 and 12 Wednesday 21st August
Rooms 2 and 9 Wednesday 11th September
Rooms 7 and 13 Wednesday 25th September

Our Classes Leading School Assemblies

Room 7 Monday 29th July
Room 6 Monday 5th August

Art Evening:

Thursday 26th September

ICAS Exams:

Science Thursday 5th September
Writing Tuesday 10th September
English Tuesday 17th September
Mathematics Thursday 19th September

Australian Mathematics Competition

Thursday 1st August

Sports events this term:

School Swimming Sports Thursday 25th July

For further dates that pop up during the term please look at the school calendar in the newsletter and the class homework sheet for reminders.