

Kowhai Syndicate Newsletter

Term 4, 2019

14th October 2019

Welcome back for the start of Term 4, 2019.

A special welcome to Charlotte Macauley who is starting in Room 9 this term and also to her family. Welcome to the St Benedict's School community, we are sure that you will all make them very welcome.

Term four means sunhats please. Remember if students don't have a St Benedict's School sunhat on at morning tea and lunchtime they will be asked to sit under the shade sail. New Zealand has a very high rate of skin cancer and it is vital that we protect our skin right from the start. We also encourage students to have their own supply of sun screen in their bags so that they can reapply it during the day. We do not have a school supply of sunscreen due to sensitive skin and allergies. Thank you for your support in helping us to look after your child's health.

Speeches are a major focus this term. We will have class/year level speech competitions and then the top 4 students at each year level will go through to the school speech competition held on Friday 29th November. More information will be sent home about the speeches on the homework sheets.

Our Year 6 students go on retreat for a day of reflection and leadership development this term as they prepare to enter the Intermediate area of our school. This year we are going to spend the day at The Home of Compassion in Island Bay. Our retreat is booked for Wednesday 4th December.

On Thursday 17th October we will all be going to Nairnville Park for our School Athletics. PE uniform should be worn on this day. Students should also bring a sunhat, warm jacket, large drink and plenty of food to keep their energy levels up.

This term we continue weekly sessions at Nairnville with Rooms 6-10 going to Nairnville on Thursdays. Please make sure that your child brings a warm weatherproof coat (rain, wind and cold) on Nairnville days as we will be walking to Nairnville each week and go regardless of the weather. If the weather is particularly bad we really appreciate the offer of rides to Nairnville. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to make yourself available at short notice to help us transport students to Nairnville.

End of year reports will be going out at the end of this term. These reports will include information about your child's progress and achievements as well as their class placement for next year.

Regards

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

Molly Kelly Gillian Higgins
Part-time teachers Kowhai Syndicate

Kowhai Curriculum for Term Four

Integrated topic (Science, Social Science and Religious Education)

Caring for our Earth

We are continuing this unit this term as there is so much to cover under this amazing topic. The students are really enjoying learning about how they can protect the Earth.

Religious Education

As well as the above unit we will focus on All Saints and All Souls days and then Advent. October is also the Month of the Rosary so we will be looking at the Rosary and the importance of this form of prayer.

Mathematics

Number continues to be our major focus and this term we revise all of the number skills and strategies that they have learnt this year as well as algebra. We also continue to focus heavily on consolidating our number knowledge, fractions, place value, ordering and reading numbers. We will be looking at a variety of strands in Mathematics across the syndicate depending on the need of the students at each level but they may include probability, volume, transformation and tessellation. Practise 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 **structures** that author's use in their writing and how they vary according to the genre. With the school speech competition being held this term the structure of an argument will be a major focus.

Te Reo

This term the focus is Kai. Students will learn words and phrases that will support them in being able to discuss what they like and don't like, quantities, quality and the cost of items of food. There will also be links to Mathematics and Health through this unit.

Physical Education /Health

This term we have our school athletics as well as our weekly trips to Nairnville. We will also be continuing to cover the NZ Police education unit **Keeping Ourselves Safe**.

Dates to Diary

School Masses /Liturgies

All Saints Liturgy Friday 1st of November at 1:30
Year 6 retreat Wednesday 4th of December
End of Year Mass 9:30 Friday 6th of December

Class Masses

Rooms 1 and 8 Wednesday 16th of October
Rooms 3 and 10 Wednesday 23rd of October
Rooms 6 and 12 Wednesday 6th of November
Rooms 2 and 9 Wednesday 13th of November
Rooms 7 and 13 Wednesday 27th of November

Sports events this term:

Athletics Thursday 17th of October
Northern Zone athletics Monday 4th Nov

Our Classes Leading School Assemblies

Room 10 Monday 4th of November
Room 9 Monday 11th of November
Room 8 Monday 18th of November

For further dates that pop up during the term please keep an eye on the school calendar in the school newsletter and the class homework sheet for reminders.