

Junior Syndicate Newsletter Term 3 2017

Talofa, Kia Ora and Welcome to Term 3!



We have lots of changes in staffing this term so we thought it would be helpful for you to know the teaching arrangements for the Juniors for the remainder of 2017.

In Room 6; Marian Cole will work Monday-Thursday and Rachel Thompson will come in for Thursday and Friday. Next week Lou Boyle will join the team three days a week, to share the load as student numbers increase.

In Room 1; Fiona and Jenny will continue as usual.

In Room 2; Heather will continue with her usual release time.



Please take time to visit the Junior Classes and take time to share in the children's learning. All Junior classes are using 'Seesaw' and we have had a lot of positive feedback. It is a great way for you to have a heads up on what your child has been doing at school and to encourage end of the day conversations.

We would like to welcome Natasha, Savannah, Mason, Vinnie, Isabelle, Lucinda, Halina, Gabriel, Caitlin and their families to St Brendan's: These children have joined Room 6. We want you to have a wonderful time here with us at St. Brendan's School. Please do not hesitate to approach us if you have concerns or questions.

TERM 3 CURRICULUM AREAS

Writing: Recounts. Punctuation, sentence structure, describing words and word and alphabet knowledge.

Reading a variety of shared and guided reading texts including, narrative, reports, poetry and procedural writing.

Spelling: Phonics Training Programme and Early words.

Handwriting: Magic Caterpillar Handwriting programme.

Mathematics: Number Knowledge and Strategy Goals. Strand Maths will be Geometry; Position.

Tikanga Maori: Hauora integrated with RE/Topic.

Religious Education: Church and Sacrament Strands. Every term, as part of our RE curriculum, we focus, in particular, on two school wide values. Our **values**, this term, are **Faith** and **Excellence**.

Te Reo: Greetings and learning to introduce ourselves, classroom instructions.

PE: Movement skills, using a variety of equipment and play environments

The Arts: Production



EVENTS THIS TERM

SCHOOL PRODUCTION for Years 1-8 (please note we will not include the New Entrant/Year 0 children as they find the disruption to routines too great.)

The **'FIREWISE PROGRAMME'** for all our Junior children across the next few weeks. A family booklet and DVD will go home with all children so you can check out your smoke alarms, develop a safety plan and meeting place in case of a fire. If you do not have smoke alarms and would like a 'Home Fire Safety Check' please contact the Trentham Fire Station ph: 5282088 or email: paul.carline@fireandemergency.nz

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES: We have 3 whole school assemblies throughout the term. These take place in the school hall on a Friday morning beginning at 9am. They are a mixture of sharing syndicate highlights and celebrating successes. Please see details in the School newsletters.

We have a busy term ahead of us with Production! School newsletters are emailed home on a fortnightly basis. These will contain further information about any upcoming events, including the Production. Please also look at our school Facebook page for up to date information: <https://www.facebook.com/stbrendanschoolheretaunga/>

BITS AND PIECES

UNIFORM:

With the change in season, we may experience some changeable and unpredictable weather. Please ensure your child comes to school prepared with a sweatshirt and wet weather jacket. Being a winter term, it is likely that we will spend a lot of time inside together. Please ensure your child understands the importance of washing his or her hands after going to the toilet and before eating. Hopefully this will help us keep the spread of germs to a minimum!

Independence

We would like to encourage our Junior School children to be independent. This can be as simple as your child carrying their own bag into school. We would like to see all children



carrying their bags and putting them on their hooks outside the classrooms. Each class has a slightly different morning routine which your child should know. They can put their books or book bag away and get themselves ready for the day. They can also pack their own things up at the end of the day.

Reading Books

Can you please have a hunt around at home and return any books that you may have. Please ensure that your child returns their reading book to their reading bag each night. We encourage children to return their readers to the teacher at reading time.

Homework

This Term, Room 1 and 2's homework will be sent home on a Monday. Your child can then hand it in on a Friday. It will be marked and new homework set to go home the next week. A key component of our Homework is reading. This includes your child reading to you and you reading to them. Reading should be an enjoyable time for everyone.

Morning Drop-off

We are not legally responsible for children until after 8:30am. Please ensure your child is not dropped off at school before this time. There is a Before School Care programme running at school, if you need to drop your child off before this time. A number of children

from the Junior School attend Before School Care so your child will be there with others they know.

Head lice

Head lice are a very common occurrence in any season. Regular checking of your child's hair can prevent a class wide outbreak. If your child does have head lice, please ensure you inform the class teacher so a general (no names) letter can go home to ask all parents to check their child's hair. Girls with long hair need to have it tied back please. This stops it getting in the way when they are learning and can help stop the spread of head lice.

Pit Stop

We offer the students a 'Pit Stop' at approximately 10am to boost their energy. This is a 5-minute break to eat a small piece of fresh or dried fruit or vegetable (cut up please so your child can manage it by themselves) and have a drink of water. It is not morning tea.

Lunch

Please ensure your child is bringing enough food for lunch, to keep them going throughout the day. As some children do not want to eat some items in their lunchbox, please check with your child what they would like in their lunchboxes.



Parent Help

If you are able to help your child's teacher, in any way, please do not hesitate to approach them. We are always in need of help with resource making, photocopying, laminating, putting away reading books, publishing or helping with reading or writing. As a parent helper we ask that you sign in and out at the office when you come into and leave school. This will enable the hours you spend with us to count towards the 'Give Me 5" initiative.

Overdue Library Books

Please ensure that your child's library books are returned once you have finished reading them at home. A number of students have long outstanding library books. Until these are returned they are unable to take out new books from the Library, to enjoy with you at home. If you do have overdue library books, please return them to school in your child's book-bag.

Email Addresses

As always if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to pop in to talk to the class teacher or email:

m.cole@stbrendans.school.nz (Marian Cole; Room 6 / Team Leader)

L.boyle@stbrendans.school.nz (Louise Boyle; Room 6 part-time teacher)

fionavulu@stbrendans.school.nz (Fiona Vulu; Room 1 / Team Leader / Reading Recovery)

j.mcguinness@stbrendans.school.nz (Jenny McGuinness; Room 1 part-time teacher)

h.campbell@stbrendans.school.nz (Heather Campbell; Room 2)

We look forward to another exciting term together.

Take Care and God Bless!

Fiona Vulu, Heather Campbell, Jenny McGuinness, Marian Cole and Louise Boyle.

