

Junior Syndicate Newsletter Term 4 2017

Talofa, Kia Ora and Welcome to Term 4!



Our staffing in Term 4 is as follows:

Jo Jones is the Junior Syndicate Leader but will remain in Room 8.

In Room 6: Marian Cole will work Monday to Thursday. Louise Boyle will be in Monday to Wednesday and Rachel Thompson will come in for Thursday and Friday. Jenny McGuinness will be in Room 6 on Fridays.

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

In Room 2; Heather and Jenny will continue as usual.



Please take time to visit the Junior Classes so that you can 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. This term, the children are learning to take photos and will then share them on Seesaw so that you will be able to see up to date action in the classroom.

We would like to welcome Bruce and his family to Room 2; Manuel, Aine, **Kasen**, **Conor**, **Isa** and **Honor** and their families to Room 6 to our school. We want you all 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 4 CURRICULUM AREAS

Religious Education: Communion of Saints and Advent. Every term, as part of our RE curriculum, we focus, in particular, on two school wide values. Our **values**, this term, are **Faith** and **Innovation**.

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 Revision and Strategy Goals. Strand Maths will be Probability and Geometry: - transformation

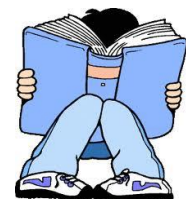
Tikanga Maori: Hauora integrated with RE/Topic.

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

P.E.: Large Motor Skills including running, skipping, hopping, walking, and dodging. Movement skills, using a variety of equipment and play environments. Fitness will include skipping, circuits and relays.

Inquiry/Topic: Navigator - Innovation Play based learning. (based on R.E., Art and Technology).

The Arts: Visual Art (mixed Media)



Technology: ICT incorporated into curriculum areas where appropriate.\

Social Science: Social Science integrated into inquiry/health unit.

ICT: Reading Eggs, Blogs, Google drive training, Bobblewrite, apps for learning

EVENTS THIS TERM

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 which are emailed to you on a fortnightly basis. These will contain further information about any upcoming events. Please also look at our school Facebook page for up to date information: <https://www.facebook.com/stbrendanschoolheretaunga/>

The Junior Syndicate are hosting the School Assembly this Friday 3rd November.

Wednesday 1 November at 9.30 - All Saints Day Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church

Monday 18th December - School Prizegiving (Times to follow)

Tuesday 19th December - End of Year Mass (Times to follow)

BITS AND PIECES

Uniform

As the weather has started to warm up, the children are now wearing the summer uniform. As the children are now able to use the sandpit again, they find it easier to do up sandals rather than putting on socks and then having to bother with laces. Please ensure your child has a school sunhat every day as the children without hats are required to stay in the shade and can't play with their peers.

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

Room 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.

Room 1 and 6's 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

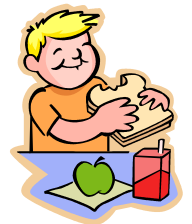
Head lice are a very common occurrence in any season. Regular checking of your child's hair can prevent a class wide outbreak. If your child does have head lice, please ensure you inform the class teacher so a general (no names) letter can go home to ask all parents to check their child's hair. Girls 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. Thank you to all the wonderful parents already involved in our classroom routines. We certainly appreciate an extra pair of hands.

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:

jjones@stbrendans.school.nz (Syndicate Leader)

m.cole@stbrendans.school.nz (Marian Cole; Room 6 Teacher)

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

fionavulu@stbrendans.school.nz (Fiona Vulu; Room 1 Teacher and 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!

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

