

Room 3 Newsletter Term 3 2010

Welcome back to another busy term! If all goes according to plan, Heidi will finish teaching at the end of Week 6 and Ann will continue in a full time capacity from then.

Developmental: This will now be held on a Tuesday afternoon rather than a Friday morning.

Sport: We will carry out a junior sport rotation on Thursday afternoons. It would be helpful if children could wear sports shoes for this as some of the activities are held on the concrete.

Big Idea: The Big Idea for term 3 is 'belonging' and lots of our learning activities will be based around experiencing belonging and building up an understanding of what belonging means. To tie in with our upcoming 75th Jubilee we will be talking in particular about what it means to belong to Pyes Pa School - both now and in the past. This will include interviewing past students.

Maori Language Week 2: Lots of exciting activities have been planned for this including reading Maori legends, creating works of art and special visitors. Each day children are asked to wear a different colour and to bring something in their lunchbox that is that colour. The colour for Monday is *whero*. Your child may like to bring a plate of traditional Maori food to share on Thursday.

Speeches: For our oral presentations this year, Room 3 children are going to prepare and present a *mihi*. It would be helpful if children have their information ready for Monday.

At some stage early in week 4, children will present their *mihi* to the class. Some children will be selected to take part in the junior finals to be held on the Friday of Week 4.

House Clubs: To tie in with our belonging idea, we hope to hold some House sessions where children will be able to take part in special activities with other house members. Let us know if you have a special talent you could share and teach.

Homework: We suggest 10 mins reading, 10 mins spelling and 10 mins basic facts daily.

Reading books will come home Monday-Thursday nights. Please record comments in the yellow reading log.

Spelling words will be recorded in the red notebook as they arise from story writing. Otherwise, please work on words from the essential lists. We suggest revisiting previous words regularly but focusing on one new word a day. There are tips in the red notebook for helping children to learn new words. Testing is carried out at school most weeks.

Occasionally reading words may be added into the red notebook if they arise during reading time for practise at home.

Maths basic facts: All children should have a plastic bag of maths activities to work on. Testing is carried out every two weeks and when the focus skill has been mastered, a new kit will be provided (as long as the previous one has been returned.)

Please help children to return their book bag including reading book, red notebook and maths kit every day.

Library and poetry books are sent home for the weekend and need to be returned by Thursday the following week. Sometimes the poetry book will include optional extra homework ideas.

As always, don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns.

Kind regards,

Heidi Pink and Ann Bakker