

Year 1 and 2 Junior School Parent Information

5 May 2011

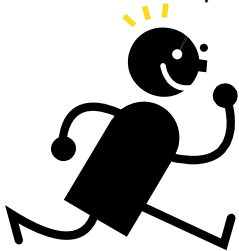
Welcome back.

Integrated Studies for Term Two

Term 2's major focus is a science inquiry about "What is the best zoo animal for Seatoun School?" There is a strong emphasis on developing the children's information skills by following the school wide 'I-cycle' to wonder about, know, understand and use information about animals. In conjunction with this unit we will be visiting Wellington Zoo. Room 4, Room 8 and Room 9 will be visiting on Wednesday 8 June. Room 5 and Room 6 will be visiting on the Thursday 9 June. More details about this trip and requests for parent help will follow closer to the date.

Phonics

This term all classes have introduced a daily 15 minute phonics programme. Children are being encouraged to listen carefully to sounds in words in a formalised way and correctly record the sounds. It is expected that children will transfer this knowledge to their writing. Phonological knowledge is essential for effective writing and reading. This will further extend the literacy programmes. The children are very enthusiastic and are enjoying the programme.



Cross Country

We are currently training for the School Cross Country run which will be on Tuesday 10 May (Postponement Day - Wednesday 11 May). The Year 1 children will be the first to run and start shortly after 9am. They will be followed by the Year 2 children. If the weather is bad the children will run the cross country on Wednesday morning. Parents are welcome to come and watch.

Please make sure the children have suitable shoes and clothes for running in.

Goal Folders/x Files

Goal folder/X-files will be going home on Friday 13 May. Please ensure your child's folder is returned to school the following week. There will be a place for you to write some feedback to your child about their learning in the folder.

Support Personnel

Sandra Petrove continues to provide one-on-one Reading Recovery Programmes for children and also work with a range of children across the Year 1 and 2 team. Teacher Aide support is provided in Room 4 two mornings a week by Antonia McBryde. Antonia also works 1 day a week in Room 5. Katerina Samios provides teacher aide support in Room 6 and in Room 5 one day a week. Gill Billingsly also teaches the Year 2 classes on Mondays so Miriam and Michelle can work intensively with individual children or small groups. Later in the term, Gill Billingsly will be working in the Year 1 classes. As part of reducing ratios in the Year 1 classes, Rooms 6, 8 and 9 continue to group the children in a variety of ways for maths and literacy programmes. This ensures effective use of additional teaching personnel. Your child may have a different teacher other than their class teacher for these subjects. Susan Kliffen works in the maths and literacy programmes across the Year 1 classes and also across all Year 1 children in the afternoon programmes.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Susan Kliffen, Ann Vandendungen, Teresa Keeley, Michelle Pontifex, Miriam Gaynor, Rebecca Power, Louise Noble and Sandra Petrove

