

1st May 2017

Kia Ora Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back! A very special welcome to the new families who are joining our hub this term and to Miss McKinley in Tipu 4 who joins us from Shirley Primary School.

Programmes of work this term are based around the continuation of our theme “All the Places I’ll Go”. Our inquiry “Rescue Me!” looks at recycling and repurposing. Lesley Ottey from Enviro waste is coming in to work with our team on two special projects for which we would love to have some parent helpers. If you can help out please fill in the form at the bottom of this notice. The STAR focus this term is Attitude.

Spelling homework continues this week. This is part of a whole school initiative, Word Lab, designed by two Resource Teachers of Literacy who work with schools in our area. The formal learning and testing of words is taught at school. In class we learn four words a week. These are matched with the current phonics level that your child is working at and are tested at the end of each week. At the end of last term we completed a review of the children’s spelling levels and have regrouped as necessary. Your child has a spelling notebook that comes home on a Monday with an associated spelling activity. At the end of this week we will also send home a list of the words for the year for your reference. You are free to work through these lists if you wish to. Please ensure that your child returns their spelling notebook on a Friday each week so that we can mark their homework and have it ready for the following week’s new words.

Reading

All children have a reading book every night except for Friday night when the Poetry books come home. It is very important that the children remember their reading folder each day so that they can be given their new book.

Regarding reading levels, it is important to note that when making initial groupings for reading at the beginning of the year we used the levels that the children reached at the end of 2016. During Term 1 every child had at least one reading assessment as well as regular observations in reading time to check that they were in the correct reading group. This ongoing monitoring continues throughout the year. While we have targets that guide our teaching all children progress at different rates, with some moving faster through the levels and others needing a little longer to consolidate their learning. Learning to read is not only based on levelled readers.



Your child's perception of their ability to read, their confidence in retelling the story, interpreting information and discussing key ideas linked to their own experience are important reading skills. Daily independent reading is also an excellent way of exposing children to a greater range of vocabulary, more than that which can be met in normal daily conversations. By encouraging your child to reread familiar and known texts, get books from the school and local libraries, as well as reading to your child, you are supporting literacy learning.

Swimming

Our swimming sessions begin on Friday this week after lunch. All children need to bring their togs, towel, swimming cap (if they have long hair), goggles and a sweatshirt packed into a separate bag. They will also need a small snack and their drink bottle to have after their lesson. Please ensure that your child's swimming lessons have been paid for. Without payment children will not be able to participate in the programme. Thank you to everyone who has offered to help. You will have received your parent help roster last term. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know if you wish to travel on the bus rather than meet us at the pool.

Important Dates for Term 2

Swimming at Dudley - Friday afternoons, Weeks 1 - 10.



Whole School Open Day – Wednesday 17th May 9.15 - 1.00pm. Further details will be printed in the school newsletter.

Milo Day - 23rd May Further details will be printed in the school newsletter.

ASB Getwise Financial Planning Schoolwide Programme - Friday 2nd June. This is taken by a facilitator and covers: identifying money and its value; how we earn money; learning how to save, spend and share; identifying needs and wants; the importance of purchasing needs before wants. There is no cost for this event.

Parent Interviews – Those families who did not receive a written report last term will do so either in Week 4 or in Week 8 of this term. The class teacher will be in contact with you when your child is due to have a report. Parents will be sent a reminder, via email, stating when the report is coming home and giving information about booking an interview. Interviews will be held on the Monday and Wednesday afternoons in Weeks 5 and 9.

Puss in Boots – NZ Playhouse performance on Wednesday 14th June. While this is a whole school event with two scheduled performances it directly relates to our focus on narrative writing. Further details will be sent out closer to the date. The cost will be approximately \$5.00 per child.



Celebration Hui - Wednesday 5th July at 2.00pm Our Tipu Celebration Hui is an opportunity for us to share some of the activities that we have been involved in this term. This will be held in the school hall and everyone is welcome to join us.

We are looking forward to another wonderfully busy and exciting term. If you have any matters you wish to discuss about your child/ren then please feel free to make an appointment to see your child/ren's home room teacher.

Kind regards,

Kylie Forrest, Abby Washington, Sinead McKinley, Leona Starkey & Trudy Miles
Tipu Team

Parent Help Form

Date : Wednesday 31st May. Please circle which class you are able to help. Each session is 45 minutes long.

Tipu 1 9.00 - 9.45

Tipu 2 9.45 - 10.30

Tipu 3 11.00 - 11.45

Tipu 4 12.30 - 12.45

Tipu 5 1.30 - 2.15

In this session you will be supporting children in your child's home room to redesign a soft toy as part of our recycling focus. If you would like to help please fill out the slip and return it to your child's teacher by Friday 5th May. Thank you!

Child's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Contact phone number: _____