



Growing Together For Success

ASHGROVE SCHOOL

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5th May 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers

We hope you all had a lovely holiday with your family and are ready for a busy term 2.

Pihinga welcome Mrs Nicky Kelso to Ashgrove School. Nicky is the homeroom teacher of Pihinga 3. We would also like to welcome all the new students who have joined us.

This term our STAR focus is Attitude/Wairua. We are excited and looking forward to working with our children and building up their knowledge on how this looks and feels at Ashgrove School and in the Pihinga Team.

As we are coming into cooler weather, all children must have a named jersey or polar fleece at school every day.

This term we are changing our daily programme. We are focussing on the children learning through play. You will see stations set up each morning that the children can choose to do. Throughout the day there is also some other learning activities that must be done. The children still have all their learning in small groups with a teacher. We are working towards having the children managing themselves independently on and around the learning stations.

We are hoping to see improvements in oral language skills and social skills. It will also be a smoother transition for those starting school. We look forward to sharing with you how this is working and any future changes.

Please feel free to talk to us if you have any questions.

Upcoming Events this Term

School Open Day - you are welcome to come and look around Pihinga and see our programmes in action on Wednesday 17th May. More information will be sent out soon.

ASB Getwise Financial Planning School Wide Programme - Friday 2nd June

Show - Puss in Boots on the 14th June. The cost for this will be approximately \$5.00 - further details will be sent out closer to the time.

Pihinga Assembly - Thursday 29th June at 2.15pm.

Learning Conferences / Reports - Reports will be sent home to those children requiring 20 week, 40 week or 60 week reports in Weeks 5 and 9. Learning Conferences will be held for these children. Conferences will be held on the 29th and 30th May and again on the 26th and 28th June. Your homeroom teacher will contact you to make a time if this applies to your child.

Oral Language/News - this term we will be sharing a special book from home with our homeroom. Your child will be given a note when it is their turn to bring a book. It would be nice if they can tell us what the book is called, what it is about and possibly even read some of the book. There will also be time for others to ask questions about the book. Please do not send toys along this term as we will not have time to share them.

Lunches - we would appreciate your child having items / packets they can open independently. Yoghurts can be quite messy and hard for children to eat. As we are an Enviroschool, we are encouraging no rubbish in our lunch boxes. If you put yoghurt pottles / squeezes or other rubbish in their lunch, these must go back in your child's lunch box and be taken home.

Home Learning - Please read with your child every day after school, this is very important. Make sure you fill in the yellow reading log book so we can see you are reading at home. This should be returned to school the following day with the reading book. Every child should still have their homework bag that was given out last term. We will keep adding to this bag throughout the year. We will keep you updated with our learning focus each week so you can support school learning at home for extra impact with your child.

As it is Term 2, we are encouraging the children to become more independent. Coming to and from their learning spaces quickly and sensibly and unpacking or packing their own belongings before and after school are ways we can encourage this independence together. Thank you to those parents who are already fully supporting this. Dropping your child off at the steps or the willow tree once or twice a week is a great start if you are not comfortable leaving them to walk in from the gate. Then gradually build this up over time.

If you have anything you would like to discuss throughout the term please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

Nga Mihi

Kaye Roberts, Alice Eastwick, Nic Green, Ashleigh Stevenson and Nicky Kelso