

Year 3/4 Newsletter Term 1 2018

8 February 2018
Newsletter 1



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back! Hopefully you made the most of our lovely Wellington summer! We have a number of new students joining us this term, and we offer a warm welcome to them and their families. We have a great term lined up and look forward to working with your children.

Staff

A big welcome to Zeenat Vintiner, who will be teaching in Room 12. Many of you will recognise Zeenat, as she was a student teacher in our school last year. It is great to have her on board!

Catherine Miller (team leader)	Room 10	catherine.miller@seatoun.school.nz
Janine Imrie	Room 11	janine.imrie@seatoun.school.nz
Zeenat Vintiner	Room 12	zeenat.vintiner@seatoun.school.nz

In addition to our classroom teachers, we welcome Ansa Kennedy, who will provide release for Catherine (leadership) on Fridays in Room 10, and Gill Billingsley, who will provide release for Zeenat (PRT) on Fridays in Room 12. All teachers also have eight days release per year for professional development, team meetings, testing, assessment and record-keeping, and we have a number of regular relievers who will work in classrooms at this time.

We have a team of teacher-aides supporting teachers in classrooms and working with individual students or groups to support their learning- Hazel Roston-Wood, Pip Troy, Belinda Clare and Angela Boulhieris. The use of their time is reviewed regularly. You will be informed via Linc Ed if your child is involved in a support programme.

Contact

Teachers value the partnership between home and school and are happy to meet with parents to discuss progress. It is important to arrange a suitable time with your child's teacher and let them know the topic to be covered, so they can come prepared with the information necessary. The best way to contact us is by email. Email is checked daily and we strive to reply as soon as possible. We can be reached in class from 8.30-8.45am.

Weekly Teacher Meetings

Teachers will be unavailable to meet with parents during these times

Monday	8.10-8.30am	Admin Meeting
Tuesday	7.30-8.30am	Senior Leadership Meeting (Catherine)
	3.10-5.00pm	Staff/Team Meeting
Thursday	3.10-5:00pm	Team Meeting

Responsibility/ Self-Management

Seatoun School has a strong focus on encouraging children to be responsible for themselves. This starts with children being responsible for their belongings and organising themselves. Please encourage your child to manage the following items independently:

1. Checking that they have all they need for school each day and caring for their property
 - Schoolbags- pack their bag themselves and carry it to and from school.
 - Bookbags - bring bookbag to school daily, with their reading book, and Home Learning book (on Thursdays)
 - Sunhats and clothing- ensure their clothing is in their bag or hanging on their hook when they are not using it.
2. Arriving at school before the 8.45 a.m. bell to ensure a good start to the day
3. Wearing a school sunhat and sunscreen whenever outside, and appropriate footwear/clothing for daily PE fitness

Programmes for Term One

This term, we will start with a Kia Kaha unit- this is a unit created by the NZ Police about developing healthy relationships with peers and caring for your own and others' safety. Alongside this unit, we continue the KIVA programme. This programme runs all year and is a prevention and intervention programme for bullying. The whole school is also undertaking a unit about "Commemorating the Wahine Disaster". We will look at how members of a community work together in times of need and why we should remember and observe major events, such as the Wahine disaster. We will be focussing on the communities of Wellington, the local area, and our school. This unit will culminate in various events on April 10th, to mark the 50th anniversary of the Wahine disaster. We welcome parent or grandparent input, if you have experiences or stories to share.

There is more information about programmes this term on the Long Term Plan that accompanies this newsletter.

Swimming

Our swimming programme is on Wednesdays, 11.00 am- 12.00 pm. Lessons are held at the Kilbirnie Aquatic Centre, and we travel to and from the pool by bus (leaving school at 10.30am and returning by 12.30pm). Please ensure that children

have named togs and towel in a named swimming bag, goggles, and warm clothing to put on after their swim. The children will be assessed by pool instructors, and grouped according to need. To get the best from the lessons, it is important that children swim every week.

Athletics

The school athletics day is on Tuesday 13th March (postponement date- Wednesday 14th March). We will be practising the skills of long jump, high jump, running, relays, quoits and vortex over the next few weeks. Please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear daily.

Interchange

This rotation programme happens each Monday afternoon and starts next Monday. It involves children experiencing a range of activities, including cooking, library skills, IT skills (animation), dance and Te Reo Maori.

Home Learning

Home Learning begins next week. All students are helped to take responsibility for identifying what they need to learn or do, and how to do so. Children will bring Home Learning books home on Thursdays and return them to school on Thursdays. Steeple Rock Challenge and Mathletics are components of our Home Learning programme. More information will follow about these programmes. Please ensure that you read this information carefully, as it will help you to support your child.

PAT (Progressive Achievement Testing) This will be happening in Week 5. This testing gives us valuable knowledge about our students' learning and attendance is particularly important over this week.

Sunsmart

Please remember all children need a named sunhat in their house colour. It is important for children to apply sunblock before school and it is recommended that you send a roll-on sun block to school with your child.

School Food

Please give careful consideration to what you send with your children in lunchboxes. School policy is no juice, please, and no lollies. We do have some children who are highly allergic to nuts so we request that children do not bring peanuts or cashew nuts to school. We are endeavouring to reduce our waste and litter throughout the school and would appreciate it if families could provide litterless lunches. It is important to name containers, as we continue to have many unclaimed lunch containers at the end of each day.

Lost Property

Please name all school clothes and hats, so that if they are mislaid they can be returned to the children. Property that has not yet been claimed can be found behind the yellow door beside the hall entrance.

Stationery

Thank you to those who have already sent stationery to school. If you have not yet done so, we will require all children to have stationery by Monday at the latest. The books and equipment which are not used initially is collected and stored by the teacher until needed. We remind you to please ensure that all stationery is named, and not to send your child to school with items which are highly attractive and covetable (scented, fluffy, noisy, glittery), as they tend to cause disruptions of one kind or another to the children's learning.

X-files/goal folders

We require that all X-files/goal folders from 2017 are returned to school by Monday.

Lastly, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Our school/home partnership plays a huge part in helping us to do the very best job we can for our students.

Kind regards
Catherine, Janine and Zeenat