

15 October 2019
Newsletter 4



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back for Term 4! This term is always a special one. Full of events, activities and special opportunities. For Year 8 parents this will be your child's final term at Seatoun School. Let's make it one to remember!

Term 4 is going to be an action-packed end to the 2019 academic year. Classroom programmes are in full swing and the students have already made an encouraging start. In addition, learners will be participating in the **Year 7-8 EOTC** programmes, **Life Education** workshops, **Changes at Puberty** sessions, **Rongotai and Afternoon Enrichment** Programmes, **Formal Dance** lessons (for Y8's), **Event Design** sessions (for Y7's), **Seatoun's Got Talent** show, **Book Week** and Seatoun **Athletics Day**.

Term 4 Learning Focuses

Numeracy focus - Learners will continue to develop their understanding of the Geometry and Measurement strands before moving onto Algebra later in the term. Problem-solving and flexible thinking continues to weave its way through our Mathematics programmes. Working to develop growth mindsets as learners of mathematics is also an ongoing focus. **Extension** maths and **Accelerated Learning in Mathematics** continues with Lorraine on a Wednesday and Thursday.

Literacy focus - Learners will continue to develop their essay writing skills. Letter writing will be added as part of our Global Read-aloud programme. Global read-aloud is an exciting reading programme that allows us to connect with hundreds of students all over the world through reading and discussing "The Bridge Home" by Padma Venkatraman.

Book Week

Book week takes place in Week 3 (28/10). On Monday 11 November we will be having a 'Dress as your favourite Book Character' Day. Always a fun day that is enjoyed by both learners and teachers.

Term 4 Seatoun Athletics / Eastern Zone Athletics

This term we have begun preparing for the school athletics event with shotput, discus, vortex, sprint and high jump training during fitness time. On 22nd October (pp 24th October) Year 3-8 will have the opportunity to take part in the Athletics Trial Day. **We do ask that whatever events they decide to compete in, and they qualify for, they are then committing to represent Seatoun School at the Eastern Zone Athletics (6 November)**

Life Education - Year 7/8 Positive Puberty programme

Life Education is a charity that educates and empowers children to make healthy choices so they can live full and healthy lives. From 4-18 November our Y7/8 learners will be participating in 2 Life Education workshops with Charlotte Klemick from Life Education, who will share her wonderful resources and expertise. There will also be 8 class session where students will learn all about physical and emotional changes, hygiene, dealing with peer pressure and most importantly, giving

them a chance to ask any burning questions that they have about this important, but often confusing stage of their lives.

KiVa

We will continue with our KiVa programme this term and looking at a number of strategies including how to be an upstander rather than a bystander.

Formal Dance

This term our Y8 learners will enjoy 10 formal dance sessions with dance tutors from 4E Dance Studio. There will be an additional cost of \$20 per student to cover this cost. This will be in preparation for our leaver's dinner on the evening of Monday, December 16th. Our Y7 learners will design and decorate the hall to make the night extra special for our leavers. For this event to be successful we need a group of year 7 parents to assist with planning and preparation. Debbie Collings is leading this group.

Steeple Rock Challenge

Thank you for talking to, and encouraging your children to undertake new and exciting opportunities. It was great to see such a variety of quality challenges shared with classmates last term! Final Steeple Rock Challenges will be shared by learners in Week 7.

Sunhats

These are required for all outdoor activities and break times. So a wee reminder...and so nice to be mentioning sun hats again.

Litterless lunches

What an incredible turnaround this year has seen. Y7/8 has made a massive effort to reduce waste with over half of every class consistently turning up with litter free lunch boxes. Please encourage your child to make litter free options as we would dearly love to lift those numbers towards 75%.

EOTC Week

Thank you to all parents who have completed the consent and health survey that was sent in last term's Signmee. If you haven't completed the google spreadsheet that gives your child permission to attend either camp, please do so ASAP.

Best regards

The Year 7&8 Team