

Senior Newsletter Term 1 2023

9 February 2023
Newsletter 1



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back everyone, and a special welcome to all our new students and their whānau to Seatoun School and the Senior team.

Staff

It was a pleasure meeting parents and learners at our 'Meet the Teacher' day on Friday. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Our whānau-kura (home/school) partnership plays a huge part in helping us to do the very best job we can for our learners. Also, a big welcome to both Luke Roper who will release Sam Broadmore in Rm 17 each Friday and Debi Meadows who releases Al Roper in the Y6/7 class. We are also fortunate to have Belinda Clare (Term 1) and Hazel Rostrum-Wood who will be supporting students in Rm 15

As Rooms 14-17 are being upgraded, these classes will be located in alternative spaces until the work is completed.

Alison Roper-Caldbeck	Classroom teacher Rm 14 (Rm 10)
Lucille Richardson	Classroom teacher Rm 16 (Library)
Rachael Laming	Classroom teacher Rm 15 (Artroom or Orca)
Sam Broadmore	Classroom teacher Rm 17 (Orca or Artroom)
Luke Roper	Classroom teacher Rm 17 on Fridays
Debi Meadows	Classroom teacher Rm 10 on Fridays

Curriculum

We are very excited about our Term One Unit of Inquiry "Mātauranga" (The acquisition of knowledge) which looks at building on learning from previous years, to explore Cultural Diversity. Students will have an opportunity to teach each other about their own cultures and explore how values and world perspective differ from culture to culture. They will also look at how learning te reo and Te Ao Māori (Māori world view) can benefit us all as Māori and non-Māori.

This term we also have a strong focus on leadership. Students will engage in leadership opportunities by applying for and carrying out meaningful responsibilities. A list of these was handed out during the, 'meet the teacher day'. Leadership week is also planned for this term. Students will go to Adrenaline Forest, compete in the Masterchef Challenge and design and run activities for junior classes. More information will be available in the next couple of weeks.

In maths this term, we focus on improving number confidence and problem solving strategies. On Mondays and Tuesdays students will have the opportunity to choose their level of difficulty, based on their confidence levels, in an environment that suits their learning style. On Wednesday and Thursday students will learn in their own classes.

Other topics this term are Kiva; Pause, Breathe, Smile, and digital citizenship.

iPad BYOD Programme

Key points are:

- The school will manage this process, students just need to bring a charged iPad to school.
- iPad must be in a case, that includes a cover; without a case it will not be used.
- Students will bring their devices to and from school each day. Devices will need to be charged at home.
- All devices are enrolled in [Jamf School](#), our mobile device management platform (MDM). This is how we will load required apps, give filtered access to the internet, restrict social media at school etc.
- We run a comprehensive digital literacy programme with learners in Term 1 and refer back to this throughout the year.

Enrichment

Every Friday the children engage in a full day enrichment programme. The Y7/8 students go to Rongotai College in the afternoon, where they rotate around music, science, hard materials, art, drama and Spanish. In the morning, at Seatoun School, our students move around Sphero coding, Art, fabrics technology (just Y8's), debating/movie making, cooking, PE and EPRO 8.

Home-Learning Programme:

1. 20 minutes Reading x 4 times a week
2. 1 hour (max) Home Learning topic-based task set weekly (research/challenge/writing)
3. 5 Steeple Rock challenges to be prepared and presented by the end of the year - compulsory

Kind regards,

The Year 7-8 Team.