

# MIDDLE SYNDICATE

## NEWSLETTER TERM1 2015

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to 2015 and another exciting and busy year of learning for your children. The year has begun well with lots of happy faces- both teachers and children.

There are five classes in the syndicate this year. Mrs Somerville joins us after her year of parental leave. Mrs McEwan will be working in Mrs Somerville's class every Friday. We hope to begin moving into our new block over the next couple of weeks. The PTA have kindly given us some money so we will be able to brighten up the area by the classrooms and the children will be involved in this! We promise that they will wear paint shirts!

Some of the topics we are covering this term are:-

**R.E.-The Charism of our school**

- Ash Wednesday and Lent
- Jesus
- Holy Week

**P.E.- Athletics-** our athletics sports will be held in Week 7 on 19<sup>th</sup> March. The postponement date is 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**Inquiry-** Our community and culture

**Ako Iti** (Little learnings) This takes place every Wednesday and the children rotate four weekly around the teachers taking part in learning from different curriculums.

The areas are:-

Ms Macdonald- Music

Mrs Kelleher- Science

Ms Sutton- Technology

Mrs Somerville- Food technology

Mrs Smith- Dance

This year we expect all our children to change into their P.E. uniforms for P.E. This is held three afternoons a week- Monday, Tuesday and Friday. We are aware that once sports begin after school that some children might need their uniforms washed- please make sure that the children have a white T-shirt and shorts that they can wear instead. The uniform is the children's responsibility but we would appreciate your support with this.

Cricket begins this week for the children. We have been able to enter two year 3 and 4 teams in the Friday afternoon competition and we have a hardball and an 8-aside team playing on Saturday morning. Thank you very much to the parents that are helping with these teams. Without your help and support this wouldn't be happening.

We also have some of our younger children playing T-Ball on Saturday mornings.

Ms Sutton has a group of year 5 and 6 children taking part in the Vinnies pastoral group. Each term these children either visit local rest homes or a day care centre. The Vinnies meet fortnightly on a Wednesday.

Due to the composition of our syndicate our EOTC programme has changed for this year. Our year 5 and 6 children will have two nights at Guthrie Smith Education Centre at Tutira near the end of Term Three and the year 3 and 4 classes will spend a night at school with an activity day following, also in Term Three.

It would be wonderful if as many of you as possible came to our Parent/whanau evening on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and also find out what their expectations are for your child. You may also have lots of questions you would answered-especially if your child is new to the Middle syndicate or school.

Of course, you are always welcome to meet with your child's teacher before then. Make an appointment for a time that is convenient to you both.

We are all looking forward to the coming year and working with your children and getting to know them.

Elise Macdonald, Anne Sutton, Julie Kelleher, Kim Somerville, Nadine McEwan, Kate Smith