



Mission Whānau Newsletter
Term 1 2020

Welcome back to the start of a busy and exciting term. The team this year is Crystal Hewett in M16, Julie Kelleher in M17 and Elise Macdonald in SJ15.

Pūtātara - A call to action:

Our overarching theme for the year is 'A Call to Action - Pūtātara'. We will be

linking our learning across the curriculum into developing knowledge and understanding around:

- Turangawaewae - Being in and of this world - Connecting our being with that of the natural world.
- Kaitiakitanga - Our wonderful world - Learning about and contributing to the incredible diversity of our natural world in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Kaitiakitanga - Think globally, act locally - Responding to global climate challenges at a local level.
- Whakapuawai - Flourishing ever forward - Exploring new paradigms of progress, based on the wellbeing of ourselves and our planet.

Taonga Boxes: In the first few weeks there will be a focus on us getting to know your child, what makes them special, what their gifts/taonga are and how their family and culture impact on who they are. If there are any particular taonga/gifts you would be able to share with our tamariki please let your child's teacher know.

The St Pat's Way:

We have worked hard to develop an understanding of what 'The St Pat's Way' means to us and how we act with Whakaute, Manaaki and Nanaiore. We will continue to live these values, so here is a quick reminder of what these words mean to us:

- **Kia Whakaute** is showing respect, appreciating and treasuring.
- **Kia Manaaki** is supporting, caring, protecting and being generous.
- **Kia Nanaiore** is striving to be our best, reaching for our goals and being resilient.

Literacy/Numeracy:

Developing a Growth Mindset and using that language in our learning will be the focus of our Literacy and Numeracy programmes this term. Keys ideas of having a Growth Mindset are:

- Mistakes are okay, failures can lead to success. Mistakes help me grow.
- I might not know it YET, but I will get there. I can train my brain to do it.

New Zealand Read Aloud: In Week 4 we will be starting to read a NZ book with about 23 other classes from around NZ! We connect online to share our work, ideas and questions. We are also hoping to connect with the author. We use Edmodo to do this. If you are interested in following what we are up to then ask your child to log on at home and you can create a parent account.

Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities (DMIC): We are continuing to develop the skills and attitudes towards maths through this approach. We have been excited to see the changes all the children made in confidence, problem solving and involvement last year. We appreciate this is all a bit new, so don't hesitate to pop in and ask us questions.

Religious Education:

We will start by exploring Prayer and establishing class routines for this. This will lead into the God strand. We have so many opportunities in Term 1 and leading into Lent/Easter to go to church and connect this learning. Our theme of A Call to Action will be strongly linked to developing and growing our relationship with God.

Sport:

Our team PE focus will be on Athletics.

Sports available to the Year 3&4's this term are:



Sport	Teacher in Charge
Netball	Ms Macdonald
Hockey	Miss Hewett
Cricket	Mr Wypych
Basketball	Mrs Kelleher

Permission slips will need to be returned by Wednesday 5th February to the teacher in charge as teams need to be registered and play starts early in the term. Please note that we need parents to help coach for these sports to go ahead. Don't forget Weetbix Tryathlon, Tuesday 18th February, and also more information will come out next week for Tough Guy & Gal challenge in March.

PE Gear:

The Year 3's have a term to get PE gear purchased. We expect all our children to have the St Pat's sports uniform. Sneakers are optional and often depending on what we are learning. If for any reason your child cannot bring their gear (or you have not purchased it yet) please send an alternative t-shirt and shorts for PE.

Homework:

We are working on making this less stressful and more enjoyable for all! We have a reading calendar where the children aim to read at least 20 nights in the month. There are collectors cards and certificates up for grabs. We will regularly send home a maths game to focus on basic facts. There are also some great games on the Mission Whānau blog. There will be further details and ideas in the front of the homework books when they come home in Week 2.

Mission Whānau Blog:

<http://sm13stpats.blogspot.com/> Please check out the team blog. We will update this with news and share our learning experiences with you. You will also find useful links. We would love to see more parents commenting this year. If you need any help with the tech stuff please see Miss Hewett.

School App/Facebook:

Don't forget to sign up to the school app and our school facebook page to keep up to date.

Library:

M16: Thursday

M17: Tuesday

SJ15: Friday Please ensure your child's books are in their BOOK BAG that day.

Stationery:

You are welcome to take books home to be covered. Please name and label your child's books even if you are not covering them. It would be great if we could have these back by Monday 10th Feb so we can start work in their books.

We are looking forward to meeting you all and getting to know your child.

Ngā mihi.

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