

9 February 2009

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Greetings, Tena Koutou e hoa ma, hello parents and friends of the school, talofa lava, malo e lelei, fakalofa lahi atu.....

Our focus of study for Term 1 is.....

COMMUNITY

This concept will be Social Studies and Health based.

The enduring understandings we aim to have our students achieve are:

- Members of an effective community work together.
- Within communities there is diversity.

Each syndicate will study community in a particular context. For example, Year 5 / 6 students are looking at our community compared to neighbouring communities.

2009 has started fantastically. Parents have sent students to school in great shape. Our students are well-behaved, courteous, friendly, and ready to learn. Thank you, caregivers for your support. The main way you can help the school do the best job for your children is to send them along ready to learn. That means they will respect rules, consider others, and have the necessary food and equipment.

Attendance....

Another factor in success at school is regular attendance. A letter is coming to some parents reminding them about students attendance in 2008. It could be that some caregivers don't realize just how many days are being missed. Perhaps some days off are not for valid reasons. Our letter is simply to provoke thought about school attendance. Every day really does count.

An exciting year.....

A very full and exciting term and year have begun. I look forward to your support and to the achievements of our students.

STAFFING 2009.....

Our staff list includes some new namesō .

Miss Julia Velvin is a permanent appointment beginning her career with us teaching Year 3 / 4 students in Room 8.

Mr Tiepa Tahana is now a permanent teacher, working in Room 6, with Year 5 / 6 students.

Miss Kirsten Robertson is working to support Year 1 / 2 students. When a new room is built, Kirsten will teach a class there.

Mrs Sylvia Rooke worked at Peninsula Primary for most of 2008. This year Sylvia is working three days a week supporting reception room students.

Senior Team

Dianna Meyler Team Leader Y5/6 Room 1

Pops Huri Year 5/6 Room 2

Taranga Kent Year 5/6 Room 5

Tiepa Tahana Year 5/6 Room 6

Middle Team

Barbara Kellerman Team Leader Y3/4 Room 10

Tina Veā Year 3/4 Room 3

Julia Velvin Year 3/4 Room 8

Robyn Ross Year 3/4 Room 9

Jody Hughes Year 3/4 Room 11

Oloa Faamamafa Year 3/4 Room 12

Junior Team

Susan Burborough Team Leader N.E. Room 19

Ruth Faafuata Year 1/2 Room 13

Helen Dobbie Year 1/2 Room 14

Linda Sanderson Year 1/2 Room 15

Lyn France Year 1/2 Room 16

Kahu Kuchel Year 1/2 Room 17

Melanie Sargent New Entrant Room 20

Support Teachers

Amanda Lake, Katie Grace, Sylvia Rooke, Ruth Scott, Violet Muller, Joanne Hewlett and Michelle Barton.

For the first six weeks of term one Mrs Rooke will teach Room 15 while Ms Sanderson is on sick leave.

For the first sixteen weeks, Miss Robertson will teach Room 16 while Ms France is on study leave.

Return slip

I have received and read Newsletter No. 1 Childs Name.....Room.....

SignedParent/Guardian

30 January.

This year, professional development for teachers will be relating to revisiting the Numeracy Project, Physical Activity, Integrated Planning, and implementation of the NZCurriculum. All work in school is directed towards helping our students achieve the best possible progress in their learning, and to this end teachers will be using various tests to finalize tentative class groupings, and to set direction for teaching activities.

In a few weeks, Progressive Achievement Tests will be completed by year three to six students, to assist teachers to identify the learning needs of their class members.

The results of Progressive Achievement Tests are archived allowing tracking of student progress over years. This enables a check on strengths and weaknesses of our learning programmes. A lot of hard work goes into gathering and interpreting assessment data, as part of trying to get the best academic progress for students.

Swimming Tuition.....

This year, Swimsation Swim School will work with our classroom teachers, to provide excellent swimming instruction. Our classes will swim on Thursdays or Fridays, with each teacher working with a Swimsation instructor. This provides a fantastic learning opportunity for our students. The ten lesson small group programme is still offered by Swimsation, at a cost of \$35 per term. Phone Swimsation Manager, Danielle, on 5799249 or 021534835, to enrol for these classes. We also use the pool at lunchtimes and whenever Swimsation is not using it. The Board of Trustees has allowed other pool times to be used by schools wanting to provide aquatic education.

Music Education.....

The Music Education Centre flier came home last week. If you are interested in taking up their great offer get paper work done quickly, as lessons start this week. Payment is made directly to them. This year, drum lessons will be taught by Ms Violet Muller. The lessons will be held in our music room (Room 4) on Monday afternoons. The cost is \$10 each, for 2 students per lesson or \$20 for one student per lesson. Ms Muller will work in sets of 5 lessons i.e. \$50 or \$100 per term. Please contact the office to enrol.

School Property and security.....

A big thank you to parents and friends of the school who were watchful of our property during the Christmas break. Damage which occurred was minimal, although still needless and wasteful. The Board of Trustees is working with a new Property Consultant, and plans for room refurbishment, toilet upgrades, and building of a new year one and two classroom will start to be carried out soon.

School Donation and Stationery.....

Thank you to those parents who have purchased the stationery packs through the school. The packs provided are of very good quality and we endeavour to keep the prices as low as possible. If you purchased the stationery outside the school you still need to pay the compulsory items e.g. coloured pencils / crayons etc. School Donation: \$85.00 per child for a year or \$65.00 if paid by 1st March.

\$130.00 per family for a year or
\$110.00 if paid by 1st March.

Permission to use images.....

Please inform the office immediately if you do not wish your child's photograph or work to be used on our website, in our newsletter, or in a publication like the Western Leader. Addresses will not be published.

Friends of the School.....

The friends of our school group meet on the second Monday of each month, in the staffroom. Their first project for 2009 is a school gala to be held on Saturday 28 March. If you are interested in supporting the school working with this fantastic organization, please contact the school.

SNACK SHACK NEWS.....

Our lunchroom contractors will begin service in week four, 23 February. Their menu will be advertised in the next newsletter.

YEAR 6 BIGFOOT.....

Thursday 12 February Year 6 students will participate in Bigfoot activities. They will have the opportunity to try some outdoor activities that will help to build confidence and develop strong leadership skills. This activity has been substantially subsidized by the B.O.T.



Room 19
students
wearing the
school hats