



Welcome to our Syndicate

Happy New Year! Welcome to you all from the Tatahi Year 2 Team. An especially big welcome to the new whanau to our school. We hope you have had a great holiday and are all feeling relaxed and ready to start 2018. Outlined in this update are the details of the programmes we will be covering this term.

This newsletter provides some important information about what is happening this term. It also has information about things specific to Tatahi Year 2 Syndicate. Please take the time to read these carefully. This year, we have three classes in our syndicate.

2018 teachers are:

Jenny Roberts and Chrissie Sallis (Room 23)
Vicki Howarth (Team Leader – Room 24)
Jo MacKay (Room 26).

Should you wish to see your child's teacher, please be aware that staff meetings are held at 3:15 pm on Monday & Wednesday. Please feel free to contact your classroom teacher to make a time if you wish to discuss anything.

Developing Independence

In Year 2 we wish to continue to help develop your child's independence. The school day starts at 8:55am. Children are encouraged to arrive with enough time to organise themselves for the day. We are developing independence in the children, and ask that you allow your child to carry, unpack and pack their bag each day at school. Please note that teachers can be busy preparing for the day so cannot guarantee supervision of the children before 8.30 am.

We need parents and caregivers to say goodbye to children well before the bell goes at the start of the school day so that teachers are free to help if there are difficulties with children separating. It makes it hard for staff and children if the goodbyes are protracted or delayed until we are teaching, and when other children are trying to focus on their learning.

At the end of the day please allow your child to collect their own bags and belongings from their peg. By all means check they have everything when you meet with them. You are most welcome at 3pm to come in and allow your child to share their day's learning and activities.

Let's work together to help our little ones to become more independent.

Syndicate Assemblies

Assemblies are a part of our programme where students celebrate their achievements and share work they are proud of. We are also teaching the children how to be a positive member of an audience, how to be an effective presenter and participant in an assembly. Assemblies will be held every second Thursday afternoon and you are welcome to join us. As the hall is being used as a classroom in Term 1, assemblies will be held in our classrooms. Our first assembly for this term will be Week 2, Thursday 8th February at 2.15pm. When attending our assemblies we ask that you turn off your cell phones, refrain from talking and keep your pre-schoolers as quiet as possible. Sometimes we may need to alter or cancel these sessions at the last minute due to unforeseen circumstances.



School Trips

When we go on a trip or if an event is happening at school, your child will bring home a note. All money and/or permission slips for these are to be placed in an envelope with your child's name, room number and what it is for, written on the front. Again, this is to be placed in the money box outside the staffroom before 9.00 am on the day before the trip/event at the latest.

Swimming Days

We are so lucky to have a fantastic pool to practise our water confidence. Class swimming days are:

Room 23: Monday & Wednesday

Room 24: Monday & Wednesday

Room 26: Monday & Tuesday

Sunhats and Shoes

Our school's sun safe policy requires all children to wear a hat outdoors in terms 1 and 4. Please ensure your child has a named hat for school every day. A good idea is for your child to keep their hat in their school bag so they don't forget it. Your child must have a hat with a brim right around, similar to that shown in the picture.



When choosing shoes, please make sure your child can manage them on their own, and that they are able to tie laces without assistance. Please ensure your child has appropriate footwear for school—jandals, 'croc's, open heel sandals that flap off the foot and shoes with heels are unsuitable footwear for school (especially when running or playing sport).

Parent Help

Tatahi Year 2 Syndicate teachers welcome any offers of parent help in our classrooms. We aim to offer varied programmes for your children, and this would not be as easily achieved without the support and assistance of willing parents. If you are able to help, please make this known to your child's teacher.

OVERVIEW OF LEARNING FOR TERM ONE

Mathematics

Numeracy (Number and Algebra) The children will: Rote count (depending on their stage) to 5, 10, 20, 50 and then 100, counting forward and backwards. Read and write the numerals and recognise the words for these (depending on their stage) to 5, 10, 20, 50 and then 100. Automatically give the number just before and just after a given number without needing to count, and identify the number between two given numbers.

Order numbers to 10, 20 and then 100. Learn groupings within 5 and then within 10, ($5+3=?$ and $7+2=?$). Learn the number of 10s in decades, (2 tens in 23). Learn teen number facts, ($10+3=?$). Learn doubles to 10 and then 20, ($3+3=?$ and $7+7=?$).



Patterns (Algebra) The children will: make and describe repeating and sequential patterns and continue a repeating and sequential pattern.

Mathletics Mathletics is a fun online maths programme. Teachers will send home information regarding mathletics over the coming days so your little mathematician can practise their maths at home as well as school if they choose.

Term 1 Topic

'How to be Safe and Happy at School'

Incorporating Social Sciences and Health



Physical Education

Aquatics—As swimming is part of the New Zealand Curriculum and our Physical Education programme, it is compulsory for all children, unless there is a medical reason which precludes your child. In this case we require a parental note to notify the class teacher. Each class has 2 swimming slots per week. Weather permitting, this should run for most of this term. If the weather is changeable the class teacher will decide on the day if it is appropriate to take the class to the pool, so it is important that your child brings their named togs and towel in a bag to school each swimming day. If you do not have a swimming bag, a shopping bag does the task successfully. The children will participate in activities that allow them to:



- Build their confidence in, on, around and under the water. ☐
- Demonstrate responsible and safe practices around water. ☐
- Learn basic aquatic skills.

Playground Games—The children will participate in a range of activities that will enable them to: describe how they feel when they are active, take turns as part of a group, and listen to others. ☐

Te Reo Maori

This term the children will be exposed to: Nga Mihi (greetings) - The children will use and respond to "tena koe" (hello to 1 person), "tena koutou" (hello to everyone).

Poroporoaki (farewells) - The children will use and respond to "haere ra" (goodbye to the person leaving) and "e noho ra" (the reply to the person staying behind).

Days of the Week (Maramataka) Rāhina - Monday, Rātu - Tuesday, Rāapa - Wednesday, Rāpare - Thursday, Rāmere - Friday, Rāhoroi - Saturday, Rātapu - Sunday

Nga Kupu Whakahau (commands) - The children will respond to "haere mai" (come here), "haere atu" (go away), "e tu" (stand up), and "e noho" (sit down).



English

Oral Language

The children will:

- Listen to and respond to others.
- Talk about personal experiences.
- Listen to and respond to texts and relate them to personal experiences.
- Tell a story, recite or read aloud.

At the start of the year the focus is for the children to learn the conventions of active listening. This includes looking at the speaker, listening to the speaker and waiting for your turn to talk, and rephrasing or questioning as appropriate.

When talking, the children will be encouraged to sequence their thoughts and project their voice so that they are heard.

News and Sharing

This is an important part of the language programme in our class. The children need to be comfortable talking in many situations, from small groups to the whole class. To help them feel secure when talking in a large group situation, you may want to initially discuss with your child what they wish to share. We will have news most days, in whole class situations or small groups. We prefer that toys are not brought to school for news time.

Reading

The children will:

- Select a range of texts and read for enjoyment.
- Select a range of texts and read to gather information.
- Begin to use meaning, structure and visual information to gain meaning from a text.
- Begin to identify simple punctuation.

The focus in reading depends on the stage your child is reading at. At the Year Two level the children fall into three groups of readers, these being "emergent readers", "early readers" and "fluent readers". Teaching points may range from pointing to words as they are reading (emergent), and identifying high frequency words in the story (early), to answering inference questions about the story (fluent).

As part of our reading programme, your child will bring home a book to read to you each night from Monday to Thursday. The book that they bring home is usually the one that they have read with the teacher that day. On occasions, the children may bring home a book that they have chosen from their browsing basket. These are texts that they have already read or are able to read independently. To support your child to become an independent reader, they need lots of practice with repetitive texts which are easy and do not cause frustration. The books from the children's browsing baskets provide this support. If your child does happen to bring home a book they have already seen please share it with them again. If your child experiences difficulty with a word when reading their book to you, ask them to sound out the first letter, to look at the picture for a clue then get them to say what the word could be. Please praise them for the attempt and if they do get the word wrong, tell them what it is. Reading at home should be a pleasure for both of you, not a chore that ends in lots of frustration.



We would love to see your comments and count their days of reading in their Yellow Reading Log. Let's see how many days they can get to over the year. There are loads of hints and tips in the Yellow Reading Log on how to support your child's reading.

Writing



The children will: write spontaneously to record personal experiences; write on a variety of topics and write a recount of events. At the start of the year the focus is on writing personal experiences (recount) spontaneously. At this age, the closer students are to a real experience or person, the greater the clarity and sincerity of their writing about them. As the term progresses the students will learn how to structure a recount appropriately and identify the appropriate language features.

When a child learns to write they pass through many different stages. These range from putting down random letters and symbols for words, to being able to spell many of the words they use independently. Every week children will have lessons on how to spell and phonics. Spelling homework will begin in Term 2.

The Arts



Our walls are currently a blank canvas and this term you will see them begin to be covered in amazing children's work and art work. Later in the term we will begin an Arts unit called 'I Am An Artist.' We will be learning to use a variety of art media such as crayon, clay, dye and paint based on different NZ artists. This will be an exciting, creative, hands on unit!

Learning Through Play

This year we have renamed Discovery Time to Learning Through Play. Every Friday morning at 9.15am Tatahi 2 Syndicate students will join with the Year 0/1 students to take part in an activity-based programme which provides students opportunities to explore, create and problem solve, in a fun, student-directed, authentic context. You are most welcome to join us on Friday mornings.

PBS Values

Our values at PBS are the foundations to positive behaviour and developing life skills.

Term 1: Values/Key Competencies:

Respect and Self-Management

caring sharing preparing

Embrace our education – Enhance our future



We have defined what these values mean to us at PBS.

C ooperation	R espect	E xcellence	S elf-Management	T olerance
Cooperation is working together for the good of everyone.	Respect is an attitude of caring, kindness and treating others how we would like to be treated.	Excellence is doing our best. It means giving your best to any tasks or relationship. Being the best you can be!	Self management means being responsible and prepared so others can depend on you.	Tolerance is showing understanding and accepting others the way they are. We are all unique.

Educational Websites

We have included some educational websites that have been recommended to us. Please note that they are suggested sites only and we are unable to guarantee the content.



<http://ultranet.paraparaumubeach.school.nz>
www.teamup.co.nz/
www.bbc.co.uk/schools
www.starfall.com

www.nzmaths.co.nz/
<http://www.eduplace.com/edugames.html>
<http://www.natgeokids.com/nz/>

A site with ideas that you can do at home for Literacy and Numeracy: <https://parents.education.govt.nz/>

A website that recommends mathematics sites for students: <http://nzmaths.co.nz/student-sites>

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact your class teacher 😊

Kind regards,

Tatahi Year Two Teachers

