



Drury School

Year 1 – 4 Team

Newsletter

August 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 3. We have made a happy start to the term with children well-established in class routines and keen to continue their learning and friendships. We look forward to Three Way Conferences in Week 3 and Calf Club Day at the end of term.

Teaching Staff

Teaching staff remains as set last term. Welcome to Christina Lister who has joined the teacher aide staff and is assisting in Room 1 with our New Entrants.

Values:

This term we are focusing on the values of **responsibility** and **excellence**. We will explore these through the key competencies of *relating to others*, and *managing self*. After discussion with our classes, our goals could include -

I am being **responsible** when I

- Follow the school and class expectations;
- Start my learning tasks quickly and finish them on time;
- Practise my reading at home and bring my book bag every day.

To strive for **excellence**, I

- Try to be the best I can be;
- Think carefully about what I know and build on it;
- Give things a go and happily learn from the mistakes I make.

Lunch Orders

Sushi can be purchased for lunch on Wednesdays with orders to the class teacher. All trays cost \$5.50. The selection is as follows - Teriyaki Chicken; Tuna; Salmon & Avocado; Combination; Mini Combo.

Milk in Schools

Cold milk in cartons is provided free of charge to all students, Monday - Thursday at 1.30. Please let your child's teacher know, in writing, if you do not want him/her to have this milk.

Contexts for Studies

This term YO-2 will focus on "Life's a Balance", a health focus, beginning with an inquiry looking at healthy eating and how to look after ourselves, especially body care and hygiene. Following this, we will complete the Firewise programme to learn how families should plan in the advent of a house fire. Finally, we hope to look at the protocol of what happens at the marae. We want to organise a visit to a local marae if possible and would welcome any assistance with this from our whanau. Another option would be a visit to the Auckland Museum. The Y3 - 4 team will run a similar theme with a focus on *hauora*. This is a Maori health philosophy comprising the connected dimensions of physical, mental and emotional, social and spiritual well-being. A focus on mindfulness and relaxation will also be a feature.

Three Way Conferences

School will close at 2.00 pm on **Tuesday, 7 August** for our conferences. Senior conferences will be on Wednesday, 9 August, beginning at 2.00 pm. School will close early on this day, as well. Interview times are booked online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. The event code is **m4vk4**. Please book your time as soon as possible, or see your child's teacher. We look forward to seeing you all.

Physical Education

Y3 & 4 students will participate in gymnastics at Bruce Pulman Park, on Thursdays, Weeks 3 - 6. YO - 2 students will participate in a gymnastics rotation in our school hall in Weeks 6 & 7. Stations will include activities to practise rotation, flight, balance and swing.

Friends of Drury School (FODS)

This group of parents meets regularly (two or three times each term) to support the school with activities and fundraising. The group is a much needed, and much appreciated, asset to the school. As students move through the school, the group of parents also moves on. We would really like to encourage the next band of junior school parents to get involved with FODS. You will enjoy new friendships and a feeling that you are helping to make a difference. Many hands make light work!

Reading Together:

Over the last three years we have run these workshops for parents of our junior students. More than 60 parents/whanau have participated giving very positive feedback. Reading Together is a research-based group programme which helps parents to support their children's reading at home more effectively. We are pleased to be offering this programme this term, on Thursday afternoons, 30 August, 6 September and 13 September, at 2.00 - 3.00. While we are specifically inviting parents from our Year 0 - 1 classes, the invitation is open to all parents. Please see your child's teacher or Mrs Carpenter for more information if you are interested in attending.

Calf Club Day

Families new to Drury School may be unsure of how our Calf Club Day operates. In the 1950's, rural schools throughout NZ, including Drury, ran Calf Clubs at their schools. The children were taught how to rear calves and lambs and each child kept a daily diary noting feed times and how well the animal performed with calling and leading. On Calf Club Day, the animals were paraded in front of the judges and ribbons, certificates and cups duly awarded.

Times have changed since then, but many of our children continue the tradition and raise lambs, kids, piglets and chickens for our Calf Club Day. Unfortunately, because of the mycoplasma bovis outbreak, calves will not be included this year. (More information is available at the school office).

Other children enter their own pets, and are also expected to be able to tell the judges how they care for them. They should not 'borrow' a pet from friends, or relatives for Calf Club.

All students complete artworks over the term and these are displayed in a colourful exhibition in the hall on the day. Flower arrangements and crafts are also part of this magnificent display.

The FODS group organizes gala events on the day and these funds help to provide the extras in school programmes. Please offer to support this group when assistance is called for.

This year, Calf Club Day is Saturday 29 September. All children are expected to attend, and the roll is checked. We have a day in lieu, attached to the Labour Weekend holiday, 23 October.

Learning about learning

We know how important it is to get our students talking about their learning. This enables them to think about what they know, how they can show they know it, and what they need to learn next. We

are focusing on sharing the learning intentions and success criteria more systematically and effectively with our students.

We are also promoting student self-assessment and peer assessment. With practice, our young students quickly learn to be honest and effective in assessing both themselves and others.

When your child returns home each day, ask him/her what they learnt rather than what they did. Get them to show you how they know they learnt it.



Growth Mindsets

We acknowledge that all students, irrespective of age, can develop positive identities and become powerful learners, be it in mathematics or reading or writing across the curriculum. We should all have high expectations of the potential within our students, and encourage them to be the best they can be at all times. (Adapted from: *Effective pedagogy in mathematics*, by Glenda Anthony and Margaret Walshaw)

Term Events

- 7 August, Y0-4 Conferences (School closes 2.00)
- 8 August, Y5-8 Conferences (School closes 2.00)
- 9, 16, 23 & 30 August, Y3 - 4 Gymnastics, Bruce Pulman Park
- 30 August, first Reading Together session, 2.00
- 27 August, Y 0 - 2 Gymnastics starts at school
- 10 Sept, Maori Language Week
- 20 Sept, New Parents Orientation meeting, 2.00
- 28 Sept, End of Term 3
- 29 Sept, Calf Club Day

Have a happy term!

Jan Ahern R 1, April Van Dam R12, Kay Kennedy R3, Sue Carpenter, Judy Glasson R2, Donnelle McNab R6, Tanya Glengarry R11, Stephanie Meier R4, Pauline Patrick R5, Karen Edwards R7, Tessa Wicks R19, Dawn Blomfield R8, Margaret Morris