

Welcome to Room 2, Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

A very warm welcome to Room 2 for 2018! I hope that you and your children are feeling excited about the year ahead, I certainly am. I am looking forward to getting to know the students better as the year progresses.

Below is an outline of what we will cover in class this term

Swimming is going to happen every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. We swim at Featherston Pool and get there by bus. The students then either, walk home from the pool, are picked up from the pool or catch the bus back home. All students will need to make sure that they come prepared on those days with their towel, togs, goggles and sunscreen. Please ensure that students are prepared for swimming even on days that the weather is not looking very nice as it may improve throughout the day.

Our main focus for Mathematics throughout the first part of the term will be place value and addition/subtraction. This includes basic facts recall, particularly looking at improving our accuracy and speed. We will be focusing on developing our knowledge in this area of math and also the strategies that we use to solve problems. We will be doing several problem solving sessions for the students to develop their skills and knowledge and also share these with their peers. The other focus for Mathematics will time and will happen later in the term.

There will be two focuses for writing this term - recount and poetry writing. Recount writing is a great way to begin the year as the students can record some of the fun activities they have done throughout the holiday period. We focus on quality writing rather than quantity as a good piece of writing does not need to be long. We are going to be looking at how we can make a good piece of writing great by adding in further details and using some wow words. Poetry is a genre of writing the students love. It gives them the opportunity to be creative with their writing and to write about things that interest them and it is also a great way to express themselves.

Guided reading will take place on a regular basis each week. The students will be grouped and will occasionally have activities to complete. These will include activities to improve language, grammar, comprehension, spelling and vocabulary.

Our Inquiry topic this term is called Me, You and Us. We will look at ourselves as an individual and a learner, how we interact with others and what we can do to interact positively with a range of people. We will also look at who we are as Room 2. We will create a Class Treaty that will allow all of us to determine what kind of class we would like to be part of. We will look at different learning styles and how many of us learn in a range of different ways. We will focus on respecting ourselves and others and how to see differences in others as a positive thing.

For art this term we will be looking at drawing. We will look closely at some techniques and will do many sketches throughout the term. The students love opportunities to draw and by the end of the term we will hopefully have a range of art on the walls.

Homework will focus on reading, spelling and basic facts. There will be no homework for the first 2 weeks. Homework testing will take place on Fridays and students will be expected to bring their homework books in each day.

Finally, please remember that throughout the term we have many assemblies and that you are always welcome. These assemblies are great opportunities for the teachers to celebrate the successes the students have and for the students to share their work with their peers.

I look forward to catching up with you all soon.

Yours sincerely

Peter Hull