



# Welcome to Room1

## 2018

Welcome back to a new school year☺. I hope you have enjoyed a fun and relaxing time with your children. This year we welcome Keegan and Greir to our class.

The first couple of weeks of the term will be spent setting up routines and getting to know each other again. While we endeavour to get straight into programmes, it is important to ensure that children understand the expectations and can do the independent tasks. Once these routines are running smoothly, your child will bring home an already seen book. As it is important to develop fluency, we aim to read and explore two books each week. At times, they may also bring home a book that they would like you to read to them. Your support at home with reading is invaluable in helping your child to learn to read and to foster a life-long love of reading. For younger students it is important that you support their development of sight words by going over the cards they bring home with their early readers.

Your child will have spelling words set each week to learn at home. They will also practice these words each day during the reading contract. The focus is on mastery of the correct spelling but it is also another way to develop sight words. Encourage your child to read the words and say the letters aloud as they write each word. Each Friday I will test the words and give new words for those they have mastered. It is important that you make sure the spelling book comes back on Friday.

Each Friday children write about aspects of their learning in their 'My learning book'. This helps students to think about what they are learning and gives them an opportunity to share the learning with you. It is important that you give your child an opportunity to share this with you over the weekend. Feel free to add comments or stickers as the children enjoy seeing your responses in their books. Please look for the book on Friday.

We begin the year in maths by thinking about all the different ways we use numbers in our lives as this helps students to understand the importance of learning maths. You could help by making these links when for example -measuring, time, and using money. Having established this we will focus on developing and consolidating their number knowledge to 100 and beyond. We will also be developing the strategies for solving simple addition and subtraction problems.

With the hot weather we hope to get lots of swimming in. We will be going to the Featherston Pool on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 2.00 and 3.00pm. Please ensure that children's clothes are clearly named, as they often don't recognise their own clothes. Please let me know if your child has any reaction to sunscreen as I endeavour to ensure they are all protected before we go. If they have rash vest to protect them it would be great as it is the hottest time of the day. Please feel free to come down to watch or help.

With swimming being a big focus for us this term, our inquiry will be limited. Our inquiry will be around getting to know each other.

I look forward to working in partnership with you this year; you are always welcome in our class.

Regards, Susan