

Welcome to Room 3, Term 3, 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Our main focus for Mathematics continues to be building Basic Facts recall, particularly looking at improving accuracy and speed, and increasing knowledge and instant recall in this area of maths. We will be doing regular problem solving sessions to further develop their skills, knowledge and strategies in solving problems and sharing these with peers. We will be concentrating on statistical inquiry for our strand maths. As part of our transactional writing unit involving cooking students will also learn about measurement.

During Term 3 we will be having two main focuses for writing; transactional writing and narrative writing. We will also be creating a cookbook to demonstrate transactional writing and to promote measurement, as well as creativity. For Friday each week, three students will be chosen to bring in a dish they have cooked/baked, with a published recipe they have written down (either on an A4 piece of paper or 1 page of their Google Docs) and decorated. This will be compiled into a recipe book of our favourite recipes in Room 3. While not all students will bring in their baking or cooking on that Friday of that week, it is still important to practice cooking in terms of transactional writing and reading instructions which I encourage students to participate in. No children will be made to eat another students' baking or cooking, although they may want to!

Guided reading will take place on a regular basis each week. The students will be grouped across Rooms 2 and 3 and will regularly have activities to complete. These will include activities to improve language, grammar, comprehension, spelling and vocabulary. Another element of our reading programme is Buddy Reading which is a school wide initiative. Both silent reading and teacher reading take place throughout the week.

We will continue working on creating a positive classroom culture during this term. As part of cultivating a positive culture, we will have Julie Orr - our community policing person - come in and facilitate the 'Kia Kaha' programme which is designed to build teamwork, inclusiveness, being kind and lower tolerance to bullying. In addition, we will be having house sports tournaments every second Friday to encourage teamwork and fair play.

STEAM (science, technology, engineering, The Arts and mathematics) lessons will continue throughout the week. In addition, a whole-school implementation of STEAM will involve working with students from across the school fortnightly on Fridays. Furthermore, the Year 7 and 8 students will have Technology. Technology lessons will continue on from last term. The dates for technology are Monday 27 Aug, 3, 10 and 17 Sept.

For art this term we will be looking at photography and collages. In regards to photography, South Featherston School is entering the Wairarapa Primary Schools photography competition. There will be a focus on elements of photography and achieving the photography criteria for the competition. We will look closely at some techniques and will do many collage artwork throughout the term. Feel free to come into the classroom and see the artwork your children will be creating.

Home learning has a different dynamic with a mixture of compulsory and additional activities to choose from. Mathematics, spelling and reading homework is still compulsory with an addition, students must practice cooking at home to help with their transactional writing and reading. Optional activities include research, STEAM challenges, exercise and literacy activities.

Throughout the term we have many assemblies that you are always welcome to attend. These assemblies are a fantastic opportunity for students to share their academic and personal successes at school and for these achievements to be celebrated with you.

Kind regards,

Georgina Monigatti.