

Welcome to Room1

2019

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you have enjoyed a fun and relaxing time with your children. I was lucky to have time to enjoy my family and see the birth of our third grandchild, Charlotte. This year we welcome to the class Alexander and Samara.

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 help at home with reading is invaluable; it supports your child to make progress with their reading and helps to develop 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 Fridays.

Being able to reflect on your learning supports the consolidation of the learning. We do this each Friday and the children will bring home their learning book so that you can share it over the weekend. Please feel free to make comments, add stickers as this also gives value to the learning,

Our focus for maths is to continue to develop number knowledge and strategies at the appropriate level for your child. Remember that the children all have Mathletics accounts which can be accessed at home. You can support them by helping them to do the activities. We will also be exploring ideas around finding and sorting data to answer questions. This is developing early statistical concepts.

With the hot weather, we hope to get lots of swimming in. We will be going to the Featherston Pool on Monday, Tuesday, 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.

Our Inquiry this term will be focused on the Key Competencies of managing yourself and relating to others. These are key ideas when working in a group and in order for children to become independent learners.

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

Regards, Susan