

Dear Parents/Caregivers of children in the Junior Room,

It is a pleasure to be back teaching your children for Term 1 and I hope the children have a happy time in the Junior Room. We have set up the room for Learning through play, and, so far, the children have loved the new family corner etc

When our routines have been established, children will be withdrawn from play to do their writing, reading and maths. We will have a weekly poem which will come home on Fridays for you to read with your child – we will have gone over it several times so the children should know some of it! In the “Take Home” book there may be other work we have done during the week that may interest you. Reading will be established for four days of the week with a big shared book and activity on Fridays. It is very important that the Book Bags are brought to school every day. Writing is an important part of the Literacy curriculum so we write nearly every day, with an observational story on a Wednesday. This could be about something we have made or done, or about special things that I bring to school. Oral language is also important so we will have news most days – but, not toys, please! The children need to focus on listening to the speaker and looking at the speaker as well, while vocabulary skills could be improving at the same time. We can all learn a lot from each other.

Maths will be based on Fractions for the first couple of weeks. We will then focus on Numeracy - Counting, recognising numbers, solving equations, writing numbers will all be covered, according to the ability of each child.

We are also focussing on” Being Sun Safe” and “The Sun” in the first few weeks. Swimming will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for 6 weeks so Please make sure your child has named togs and towel in the bag – or the child will have to stay at school!

I try to keep the children busy in a positive way without too much pressure on their achievement, but always looking for improvements, and having happy, engaged students. I have been most impressed with the support from the community since I have been here – and I look forward to working with you all this term.

You can contact me by email, ronny@sfs.school.nz if you have any queries. I will access these emails during school hours. If you would like to meet with me, please drop into class before or after school, email or call the office to arrange a time.

Ronny Tankersley