

Welcome to South Featherston School's Senior Room for 2021. I am very excited and privileged to be part of your child's learning this year. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with my contact details and some key information that you may require at this early stage of the year.

This is my 3rd year teaching the senior room at SFS and I am looking forward to another fun and eventful year. Throughout the year the senior room will have a broad range of learning experiences underpinned by the core curriculum areas of Reading, Writing and Maths. These subjects will often be integrated within the Inquiry focus of the term as well as daily needs-based teaching. We want to create even more opportunities for the senior students to explore their local environment with a range of educational experiences around the Wairarapa. Throughout the year we will be asking for parent support and would appreciate any help to facilitate these opportunities.

Inquiry - 'Ko au' (I am) is this term's focus throughout the school and will encourage our students to explore who they are as individuals, their whanau, friends, school and wider community. We will begin the year getting to know each other and starting our learning journey together. We have been exploring what values are important to us and how they might look throughout our school. Alongside these ideas we will develop our class treaty and consider who we are as a class and in what ways we can impact our school positively.

Reading - Reading will be an integral part of the senior room's class culture. There will be daily opportunities for reading that include personal reading time, guided reading, class novel and whole class reading related to current events and our school wide focus. There will be a variety of activities that support student learning within language, grammar, comprehension, spelling and vocabulary.

Writing - The senior room will be focusing on 'The Writing Process' this term. The students will explore the key features that make a piece of writing enjoyable to read. They will analyse and identify a range of writing types and use their understanding to develop their own writing. We will focus on the students' past experiences to generate ideas and how to develop those ideas into descriptive and imaginative texts.

Maths - The senior room's main focus for Mathematics throughout the first part of the term will be Statistics as well as identifying key areas within the number strand that students need specific support with. Throughout each week the students will have opportunities to work collaboratively and independently. They will focus on problem solving as well as exploring a variety of strategies to find understanding. There will be chances for students to extend their own learning within Maths as well as support those around them.

Just like last year our class will have no generated homework for students to complete. There will be opportunities for the students to take class related work home and an emphasis on personal reading time. Should there be any queries regarding this I am happy to discuss alternative options including some valuable online resources to consider.

Finally, please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns, queries or ideas. You can contact me by email, ned@sfs.school.nz. 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.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Ngā mihi,

Ned Worboys