

Junior Room  
May 2021

Dear Parents and Whanau,

Welcome to Term 2 ... it's hard to believe it's the beginning of week 4 already! As you will know, we are new teachers at South Featherston School and so we'd like to introduce ourselves and communicate a few important things about the coming term. Philippa Young will be teaching in the Junior Room on Mondays and Tuesdays and Anna Hull will be teaching on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We will alternate the Fridays between us.

*Mrs Philippa Young*

I am originally from the Hutt Valley but have also lived in central Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton and a season overseas. I have lived in the Wairarapa for the past 5 years. I have 5 children and one grown up foster daughter and a granddaughter. I have taught students from Years 1-6 but over the past 10 years have focused on Junior level learners. I am particularly passionate about music and love to include this in the classroom programme to reinforce our learning across the curriculum.

*Mrs Anna Hull*

I have lived in Featherston since the end of 2014, aside from our recent two years in Auckland while my husband, Pete, studied at theological college. We have three young children (Eli, Grace and Naomi) and we are all very happy to have returned to the Wairarapa this year. Prior to having children I was an experienced junior teacher. While enjoying the early years with my children I also completed some Early Childhood Education training through Playcentre. It has been fantastic to return to primary teaching and be able to bring my knowledge of ECE to support a smooth transition to school and integrate Learning through Play in the classroom.

We have both thoroughly enjoyed our start to the term in the Junior Room. They are a wonderful group of students, full of enthusiasm and eagerness for learning.

### **Our topics this term**

This term our Inquiry is all about WATER. We are exploring some science concepts and ideas around water and integrating some mathematical concepts particularly volume and capacity. In Maths, we also continue to explore numbers and strategies for addition and subtraction. Counting forwards and backwards to 20 is a great way to help with our Maths programme at school.

Other focuses this term include Cross-Country training and exploring music concepts through singing and instrumental activities. We will be exploring paint, including watercolours in visual arts, and learning different phrases we can use in Te reo Māori.

### **Things to Remember:**

**Daily Reading** - the children will bring home a reading book each day to read at home with you. Please can you make sure your child returns the book and bookbag to school each day.

To give your child a new book each day, we need to have their book bag at school. Please make sure you get them to put this in their bag each night after they have read to you.

**Poem Books** - our weekly poem will come home each Friday in the childrens' 'Take Home' Poem books to share with you over the weekend. Please return these books on Monday. *(We currently have several that have not returned to school since the holidays if you can please have a search at home for them.)*

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to pop and see us. You can also email. Our addresses are;

[philippa@sfs.school.nz](mailto:philippa@sfs.school.nz) and [annah@sfs.school.nz](mailto:annah@sfs.school.nz)

We hope you will be able to make the whanau bbq this Thursday afternoon. This begins at 5.30pm and will be held here at school.

Ngā mihi,

*Philippa Young and Anna Hull*  
Junior Room Teachers