

Room 13 & 14 Newsletter

On Friday, we said farewell to some of our friends as they moved on into Room one. We wish them the best of luck in their new class, but we will continue to see them weekly during our rotation time and assemblies.

We are looking forward to our beach trip on Thursday. Rm 14 still needs one more parent helper. We will be leaving school at 9:15, walking to the beach and returning to school by 1:00. Please remember to pack brain food and morning tea and lunch as normal (no lunch orders please). Also please put sunscreen on at home. Could each child please bring a plastic bag (e.g. A supermarket bag) Thank you.

Our Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP) equipment sessions started last week. Thank you so much to the parents who have been able to help us. We couldn't do it without you. Room 13 is on Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30 – 10:00. Room 14 is Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 – 10:30. Sports uniforms can be worn these days with sports shoes.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S SHOES/SANDELS ARE NAMED. When we go to the library, we have to take our shoes off. Also a reminder that they need to be all black, and socks - navy blue.

Weekly Reminders

NEWSLETTER

This information is updated weekly. However, some information is always given as we have new students starting weekly.

INFORMATION CENTRE

Our library time is Friday at 2:15pm. Please help your child remember to return their book each week.

LUNCH ORDERS

Subway orders taken every day. Pita Pit only on Wednesday & Friday. Lunch Club & E-lunch order on line. Orders must be in by 9am. Please inform the classroom teacher if you are placing a lunch order.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

This is sent out every Wednesday via email. Please make sure the school office has your current email address.

DRINK BOTTLES filled with water only.

Save the Date!

BEACH TRIP

Thursday 10th March

Leaving school at 9:15 walking to the beach.
Returning by 1pm.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

Tuesday 15th March

More information to follow.

EMAILS

thersea@murraysbay.school.nz
natasha@murraysbay.school.nz

Swimming:

We go swimming twice a week and require 4 parent helpers each session. Please bring named togs and a towel in a swimming bag. We get changed 15min before our swimming time, so we can optimize our time in the pool. If you are able to help during one or both sessions, please write your name on the swimming roster on the classroom door or email me.

Hats:

In Term 1 and 4 we are required to wear a hat .It doesn't have to be a school hat, any hat will do. The children must wear their hat to and from school.

Year One Active Learning Rotation

Year One Rotation of Music, PMP floor sessions, Digital Citizenship and the You Can Do It Programme -starting with "Gabby Get Along" will start next week. These sessions will be taking place on a Monday afternoon. The children attend these sessions in their school Whanau groups e.g Pohutukawa, Tawa and rotate to the different activities.

Pencil Grip:

Please encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly by using their thumb and pointing finger only. All other fingers need to be resting underneath the pencil. If we develop this habit early, writing speed and accuracy is not a challenge.

Correct Name Formation:

It is extremely **IMPORTANT** that your child is writing their **name** with **CORRECT FORMATION** - please do not let them put capitals in the middle of their name or form letters incorrectly. Please encourage and practise this **most nights** if possible. Thank-you for your support with this area of learning.

Letters of the Alphabet -

The letters of the alphabet are like animals. They have a name and they make a sound. It would be most helpful if parents could assist in the learning of these letters.

Maths - Number Knowledge

Ideas for Maths Support at home:

- Count to 20
- Count backwards from 10
- Say the number after a number (up to 10)
- Say the number before a number (up to 10)
- Recognize the numbers 1 – 20
- Practise putting these numbers in order.

MONDAY

Return poem book each week.

9:15 Apirana Taylor – visiting Author

TUESDAY

PMP Rm13 9:00am – 9:30am

Rm 14 9:30am- 10:00am

WEDNESDAY

PMP Rm13 9:00am – 9:30am

Rm 14 9:30am- 10:00am

Rm 13 Swimming 11:30am – 12:00pm.

Rm 14 Swimming 12:00pm - 12:30pm

THURSDAY**BEACH TRIP**

Rm 13 Swimming 1:50pm – 2:20pm.

Rm 14 Swimming 2:20pm - 2:50pm

FRIDAY

Whole School Assembly 9:00am each week in the Hall.

Library visit 2:15pm

We encourage all parents to read to their child every night if they are not doing so already. Talk to your child about the story. Ask who are the characters in the story, who did they enjoy the most? What happened at the beginning/end of the story. If this is too taxing choose an exciting page and talk about the illustrations.

If you have any concerns or questions, however small you feel they may be, please ask and we shall endeavor to assist in solving them.

Kind Regards
Theresa Wells and Natasha McMurdo

General Information

Lunch Orders

Subway and Pita Pit Lunch Orders are the only lunch orders provided at Murrays Bay. Subway is available five days a week, however Pita Pit only Wednesday and Friday. To order a Subway or Pita Pit lunch - payment must be made in the correct Subway or Pita Pit envelope (available from the classroom or school office). This order envelope is placed in the classroom lunch basket for delivery the same day. The Lunch Club & E-Lunch can be ordered on line. Please let me know if you have ordered this lunch so we can remember to fetch it.

School Uniform

Please NAME all your child's belongings especially shoes, socks and hats. To protect your child's uniform they will need a suitable ART SHIRT which we will keep in the classroom for messy tasks such as dyeing and painting. One of Dad's old T-shirts will be fine. Socks must be navy blue.

Bag Hanging

The children all have their own named hook where they should, if all goes well, hang their bag each day. We shall show your child their own hook and hopefully they will be successful in finding it each morning when they arrive at school. We are learning to pack and unpack our bags ourselves each day.

We are also learning to zip up our bags so that they stay safe!

Book bags

These will go home every night and should come back to school every morning, even if it has nothing in it. We are wanting to develop good habits early to help them in their future. Please check the book bags every night for notices, library books and for home learning such as poems, songs and later reading books.

Library

We shall go to the Library on a Friday at 2:15pm each week. Please assist your child in returning their book to school on or before library day to enable them to get a new one each week.

Newsletter

For new parents and a reminder to old Murrays Bay parents, whole school newsletters are sent out via e mail each Wednesday, please make sure the school office has your current email address so you can keep up to date with what is happening school wide.

Health "Brain" Food Breaks

Your child is given two health snack food breaks a day, one after fitness in the morning and one after lunch. Please ensure your child has a variety of healthy snacks to choose from. We ask that you consider foods such as raw vegetables, fruit pieces, dried fruit, nuts or plain popcorn. Please avoid lollies, chocolate or brightly coloured foods.

Please let us know of any food allergies.

Drink bottles

Please ensure your child has a drink bottle each day. These need to be named and filled with water only.

Certificates

For new parents and a reminder to old: if your child comes home with a coloured certificate remember to keep it in a special place as when your child receives 5 certificates they can be brought back into school to receive a "gold" certificate.

Waste

As part of our zero waste policy at school, your child is required to take home their rubbish in their lunch box. An extra plastic bag in the lunch box for messy yoghurts to go home in would be a help. This will also help you to keep an eye on what your child is eating. We also have a paper recycling bin within the classroom that the children will be learning to use.

Year One Assembly

Is on a Thursday at 11.15am in Room 15 . If you ever feel like coming along to watch, you would be more than welcome.

Full School Assembly

Is in the Hall every Friday starting at 9:00am. If it is raining then we stay in our classrooms to listen over the airwaves. This Assembly is to celebrate the successes of each class. The chosen Star of the Week receives a certificate.

This weeks “Foundation Skills” to practise (5)

We are teaching the children in year one, to develop their memory and recall skills over the next nine weeks, please do not **do** for your children, what they can **do themselves**, however they are only five...

Auditory Sequential Memory/Following Instructions - The ability to rehearse and repeat information in the given sequence and the ability to follow given instructions within the student's sequential memory space. As if we are able to remember what we see and hear education will be a lot easier. Spelling also requires the placement of letters in the correct sequence. We need to be able to hold and work with information in sequence, if we are to spell correctly. To practice this at home - Give your child a sequence of daily instructions to perform. Make sure your child **says** back to you **first** the items before they do the actions. E.g.) Toilet, Teeth, Bed or Lunchbox, Drink Bottle, Book Bag- say only the names of the items. Please only start with three items then work up to five.

Auditory Figure Ground - The ability to focus on the important information (figure) and disregard the unnecessary information (ground). Students who have poor figure ground often “lack concentration”. They find it difficult to stay on task and “flit” from one auditory stimulus to another. This is an area that is covered well in the PMP equipment sessions at school. Here students are required to follow instructions against background noise within the room. To practice this at home: have music playing while reading stories.

Visual Memory - The ability to remember what has been seen. This is essential if children are able to process and learn new information. To practice this at home: Kim's Game - place up to 10 common things on a tray. Your child looks at the tray and names each item twice. Cover the tray. Then have your child draw all the things they remember. To extend this you could add or remove items. Then show your child and see if they can say what is missing or what was added.

Visual Sequence – The ability to put visual information into the correct sequence e.g. stories, words, and letters. To practice this at home have your child sequence a simple set of 3 to 4 events/pictures within a sequence into the correct order. Sequencing books are available at book stores or even the Warehouse for very cheap if your drawing skills are not great. The sequence must be out of order, your child's job is to colour, cut and stick the sequence in the correct order that it would happen. Always complete sequence activities in a left to right orientation. Your child should also verbalize the story created by the pictures after completion of the sequence. A fun rainy day activity!

Visual Constancy - The ability to see that, whilst there may be slight differences in the visual information given, the salient information remains constant. This is necessary if letters / words are to be recognised as the same even though the script may be different. To practice this at home: Teach the concept of “same but different” - look at several different objects e.g.) two cups which are slightly different, 2 shoes that are different etc and discuss with your child the fact that they are both cups/shoes even though they are not exactly the same. You may also need to discuss with your child what exactly the same means too.

Physical Activity- We are learning how to “skip” so that means step, hop, step hop. This activity will assist in the development of your child's gross motor skills, which are so important in the many skills they learn while at school. You could assist with this development by asking your child to “skip” to the bathroom when they are going to brush their teeth or from the bathroom to their bedroom before bed. The walking needs to be completed slowly. Technique is more important than speed.