

# Room 13 & 14

# Newsletter

We hope you enjoyed your Easter holiday and you were able to enjoy some quality family time. We have 3 busy, fun filled weeks left of Term 1.

## 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.

This Friday, we will try again to take our learning outside the classroom for the day, as we participate in our Outdoor Education Day. Please wear your sports uniform, and remember to bring brain food and morning tea. Lunch will be provided in the form of pizza. If, for any reason your child can not eat pizza, please provide an alternative for lunch. If you are able to come and support our learning on Friday, please let your teacher know. We would require your support until 1pm.

We hope you have had some time for your child to log onto Reading Eggs and show you this fantastic programme. We suggest this programme should be used little and often (1 hour over the whole week). If you have put your child's user name and log in in a 'special place' and need another copy, please let your teacher know and we can get you another one.

**PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S SHOES/SANDELS ARE NAMED. Also a reminder that your school shoes need to be completely black, and socks - navy blue.**

## Save the Date!

### OUT DOOR EDUCATION

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Please come to school in sports uniform.

There is a pizza lunch.

### SHORE TO SHORE FUN RUN

**3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016**

Please come and have some family fun while supporting our school.

### EMAILS

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**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**

Easter Monday

**TUESDAY**

Easter Holiday. School Closed

**WEDNESDAY – sports uniform**

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**

Rm 13 Swimming 1:50pm – 2:20pm.

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

**FRIDAY**

Out Door Education Day.

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 (8)

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...

**Visual Pattern** – The ability to recognise and repeat visual patterns. This aids the recognition of similarities and differences in visual patterns of letter sequences (spelling) and number patterns. We are learning to use three-four different objects to continue a repeating pattern. To practice this at home: Have your child continue a pattern using shapes, numbers, letters anything etc?

**Visual Figure Ground** – The ability to focus on the important visual information (figure) and disregard the unnecessary information (ground). Students with poor figure ground often “lack concentration”. They find it difficult to stay on task and “flit” from one visual stimulus to another. To practice this at home have your child find a particular object from a group of things. Put lots of objects on the floor and ask your child to find the specific one you’ve asked for. It could even become a competition between other family members to see who can find the object first! Other activities specific to this area are practiced daily at school.

**Auditory Pattern** - The ability to repeat auditory patterns and to break sentences into words. This is necessary for syllabification and spacing of words in written communication. To practice this at home: Try clapping patterns in songs/nursery rhymes. Echo your clapping. Continuous clapping to a beat – keeping a beat.

**Visual Completion** - The ability to fill in missing information so that sense is made of given, incomplete information - this is essential if students are able to correctly form letters and numbers. Writing involves completing an incomplete shape. To practice this at home: ensure your child always completes an activity before starting a new one, an important habit to be established – Puzzles, colouring in, tidying up, eating dinner etc.

**Auditory Analysis and Synthesis** – The ability to break words into their component sound groups and to put parts of words together to make a whole word. This is what occurs when we “sound out” unfamiliar words in reading and spelling for writing. To practice this at home e.g.) Three letter words - Synthesis - You say “b/a/g” (the individual sounds) they say “bag” then, Analysis - You say “bag” they say “b/a/g” (the individual sounds). If your child becomes competent at this, reading and writing development will be a lot easier. (back, bag, bad, bat, bet, box, big, bit, cat, cup etc)

**Auditory Association** - The ability to associate new facts with information already known. This aids reading comprehension and encourages the reasoning skills needed to select appropriate options, a skill needed for both “invented” and proficient spelling. To practice this at home: Play associating pairs eg) Knife and ... Socks and ... In and ... On and ... etc. Picture bingo games are a great way to reinforce this learning area. Another activity is finding the odd one out in a group (classification) eg) Car, train, bus, house or cloud, bird, sun, whale or sock, shirt, banana, jacket etc. Your child must however be able to explain why they choose the one they did.

**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.