

20th July 2020

Kia Ora Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back. We hope that everyone has enjoyed the break and you are looking forward to another wonderful term of learning.

Swimming starts on Friday this week. Thank you to those parents who have already let us know they can help. We really appreciate the assistance to help children change clothes before and after their swimming lessons. It is not too late to volunteer, just let your child's homeroom teacher know that you are available please.

Swimming and Bus Schedule

11.30	Tipu 4 leaves on bus for lesson at Dudley Pool (12.00-12.25)
12.00	Tipu 1 leaves on bus for lesson at Dudley Pool (12.30-12.55)
12.30	Tipu 5 leaves on bus for lesson at Dudley Pool (1.00-1.25)
12.45	Tipu 4 returns to school on bus
1.00	Tipu 2 leaves on bus for lesson at Dudley Pool (1.30-1.55)
1.20	Tipu 1 returns to school on bus
1.30	Tipu 3 leave on bus for lesson at Dudley Pool (2.00-2.25)
1.45	Tipu 5 returns to school on bus
2.15	Tipu 2 returns to school on bus
2.45	Tipu 3 returns to school on bus

Book week

Along with the rest of the school Tipu will be celebrating Book Week next week. We will spend the week celebrating books and reading. Our Librarian Ms Jo King has organised a number of activities for the whole school, including a book character dress up day on **Wednesday, 29th July**. For Tipu children we would also like them to bring in a pillow, soft toy and favourite book from home to snuggle up with and read with their friends on **Thursday, 30th July**. Each teacher will share their favourite book with a different Tipu class at 9.15 each day.

Learning Conferences

We look forward to seeing you at the Learning Conferences in week three of this term on **Monday 3rd August and Tuesday 4th August**. Learning Conferences provide opportunities for students to show evidence of their learning. It encourages connectedness between students, parents and whānau through open and honest dialogue. The process of reflection and self-evaluation supports students to develop critical thinking. Research shows that developing students' ability to talk about their learning and their progress makes a difference. Professor John Hattie (formerly University of Auckland) published a list of the most effective influences on student achievement which identifies student self-reporting as the most significant indicator linked to raised student achievement. Please note school will finish early on Monday at 1.30pm.

Structured Literacy

The Junior School has been working on a new approach to Literacy learning which we believe will be beneficial for all learners. Some students from Tipu began on this programme at the start of the year and based on the successes we have seen we are introducing Structured Literacy across the whole team.

Depending on the level of your child's learning she/he will be using specific decodable books that support the teaching focus of how words work for both reading and spelling. Learning sessions with the teacher will incorporate reading, writing and spelling. Once students have attained a specific level with these texts they will then return to using the reading books they had previously and will have separate reading and writing sessions. These sessions will still include specific instruction on spelling patterns and sounds.

This approach differs from the previous method. One difference you will find is that the students will not bring home the book they read at school, instead they may bring home a browsing book of their choice.

Some key shared literacy activities that you can do with your child:

- Read picture books and non-fiction books to your child based on your child's interest. Have fun with the language especially with rhyming books e.g. Dr Seuss.
- To support fine motor skills, engage in drawing, baking, lego and puzzles.
- Play word games, such as I Spy with a beginning sound or a word that rhymes with another word.

We are planning to have a parent information session on Structured Literacy early in term 3.

School Timetable

Our school timetable has changed for Term 3. Teams throughout the school will have different break times as we have found that some of the changes we made during Alert Level 2 have been beneficial for students on the playground. The following will be the timetable for Tipu:

9.00am School starts

10.30 - 10.50 am Interval

12.15 - 12.55pm Lunch

1.55 - 2.15pm Energizer Break

3.00pm School finishes

North Canterbury Sport will continue to take coaching sessions with Tipu classes on Thursday each fortnight and each homeroom will visit the school library every Thursday.

Today St John's visited our school to teach the children how to respond in an emergency. This visit was to have taken place at the end of Term 1, so we were very pleased to be able to reschedule this so the children learn these important skills.

Later in the term the children will also receive a free cricket coaching session organised by the Canterbury Country Cricket Association.

There are a number of other school wide activities happening this term which will be in the School Bulletin.

We look forward to a great term of learning and fun.

Kind regards,

Tipu Teachers - Fiona St John, Leona Starkey, Ellie Tongue, Angelina Stearn and Bridget du Plessis.