Room 5 Term 1 Newsletter

Hi Everyone! Welcome to Room 5 for 2026.
Welcome to Louis Flynn and his family. We hope you enjoy your time at our school!
I am really looking forward to getting to know all of our Room 5 students and I strongly believe that we are a team effort in educating our students - so I look forward to working alongside you all this year too.

Term 1 School-wide focus: Health & Wellbeing

We will be exploring:

- Our identity and the role we play as part of Room 5.
- Building relationships and whanaungatanga in both Room 5 and across the school.
- How we can be 'good' citizens
- Different ways to support our mental Health through the Mitey Project

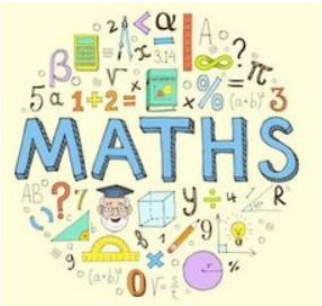
Literacy:
We continue the good learning from last year by reading in many ways. This may be in the form of a poem, a short passage, heart words or a book (either from the days lesson or from their book box). Once students are on authentic (or 'normal') books, we start concentrating more on vocabulary and comprehension development. Please do not worry if your child has a book for more than one night - reading it multiple times develops fluency, which is what we want.

In Writing, we will be starting our year with a focus on sentences, what they are and how to write them well. We know that once we can build good sentences we can build great paragraphs. Our writing will be based in our Health focus or the ideas that we explore through reading.

We will be exploring: Different types of sentences. Then verbs, adjectives, and adverbs, and using these to add detail to our sentences to make them more interesting.

We will also be The Code in the next week or so. This is the spelling programme we use that helps us to develop our understanding of letter sounds and different spelling patterns. Students will have heart words (words we need to be able to spell off by heart as they don't normally fit a spelling pattern) for home learning and a small activity to reinforce the work we are already doing in class.

Maths
This year we are embarking on a new journey with the refreshed new, new Maths curriculum as well as having the support of the Maths No Problem programme to support our classroom Maths programmes.



Our Term 1 focus will be:

- Using Family of Facts to learn our basic facts (more information coming!)
- Statistics and getting to know Room 5
- Revision of number to 100 and place value
- Addition and Subtraction

Music
We are very lucky to have Stu Green working with us every Tuesday to run his music programme with us. This term we are learning about Bucket Drumming and how to play the Ukulele. At our first lesson, he was very impressed with how good we already were!

Physical Education:

Swimming:

We will be focusing on developing our confidence in the water, our swimming style, being safe in and around water, and preparing ourselves for school swimming sports. Please make sure togs come to school **every** day as it is a compulsory part of our curriculum. And **please** name everything…even undies and towels!
School Swimming Sports will be held Tuesday 17th February.

Friday Sports:

Each Friday we have a Friday Sports Session. Students will take part in a range of team games and activities.

Home Learning:

Home learning will start on Monday Week 4, and will be due on Friday each week.
Home learning this term will consist of:

- regular reading
- maths basic facts learning
- weekly spelling words and a wee activity to reinforce the rule learnt in the classroom each week

EOTC Week:

In Week 3 (Monday 16th- Friday 20th February), we are having an EOTC Week at School. This is a great opportunity for students to build relationships, develop their teamwork and cooperation, and build positive friendships with their peers.
We have an action-packed planned!

Monday: Whole School Mt William Walk.
Tuesday: Whole School Swimming Sports
Wednesday: Day trip to Tapapakanga Regional Park for bush walk, picnic, and beach activities
Thursday: Youthtown at School and Junior Team Sleepover at school, either in classrooms or tents on the field
Friday: Outdoor activities at school.

Important dates to remember:

- Tuesday 10th February: Parent Information sessions and BBQ
- Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February: EOTC Week
- Tuesday 17th February: School Swimming Sports
- Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th February: Swimsafe Sessions with Swimming Waikato
- Monday 9th March: School Photos
- Thursday 26th March: School Triathlon
- Tuesday 31st March: School Open Day
- Thursday 2nd April: Teacher Only Day

Communication

We communicate with you in variety of ways:

- Our weekly school newsletter which comes out every Monday
- Hero - if you haven't already, please download the Hero app as we often use it to get in touch with families quickly
- Weekly Friday email. This gives you a quick rundown on what we did that week and any information you need for the next week
- Our school website: mangatawhiri.school.nz

If you have any questions queries or concerns about your child's learning please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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