

## Mission Heights Primary School

### SENIOR LEARNING COMMUNITY NEWS - Term 1

#### **“Growing Excellence”**

##### Important Dates:

Feb 5 - Swimming begins weekly on a Thursday or Friday  
Feb 12 - Softball training begins  
Feb 13- Meet the Teacher evening  
Feb 16 - Powhiri for new staff and students  
Feb 19 - ACE begins  
Feb 19 - Year 6 Camp parents meeting  
Feb 23 - MHP Swimming Carnival  
Feb 23 - Picnic in the Courtyard  
Feb 28 - Goal setting meetings, 3-5pm  
Feb 29 - Goal setting meetings, 1.15-8pm, students to finish at 1pm  
March 7 - Literacy open morning, 9-11am  
March 9, SLC Assembly  
March 16, Mufti Day  
March 20-23 - Year 6 Camp  
March 27 - Grandparents' Day  
March 30 - Good Friday holiday  
April 2 - Easter Monday holiday  
April 3 - Easter Tuesday holiday  
April 11 - Cultural Festival, Sancta Maria, 6pm  
April 13 - Last day Term 1  
ACE Assembly, 11.30am, school closes 1pm



Kia ora tatou, tena koutou katoa and a warm welcome back to yet another exciting year at Mission Heights Primary School. I hope you had a wonderful Summer and have enjoyed the beautiful weather we have had this year. We have many new students and families joining us in 2018 and we hope they have had a great start to the new academic year. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the two new teachers we have joining the SLC, Mr Gee and Mr Campbell.

#### **Communication:**

Firstly, reminders of our contact details and that your child's class teacher is the first person you should correspond with about your their academic performance and personal welfare.

Deputy Principal: Mrs Cheryl Hill [chill@mhp.school.nz](mailto:chill@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 13: Mrs Erna Bornman [ebornman@mhp.school.nz](mailto:ebornman@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 14: Mr Richard Campbell [rcampbell@mhp.school.nz](mailto:rcampbell@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 15: Mrs Helen Stevens [hstevens@mhp.school.nz](mailto:hstevens@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 16: Miss Ashlee Morse [amorse@mhp.school.nz](mailto:amorse@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 17: Mrs Ashika Devanath [adevanath@mhp.school.nz](mailto:adevanath@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 20: Mrs Monique Browne [mbrowne@mhp.school.nz](mailto:mbrowne@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 21: Miss Nicole Dennis [ndennis@mhp.school.nz](mailto:ndennis@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 22: Mrs Wanda Wright [wwright@mhp.school.nz](mailto:wwright@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 23: Mr Edward Gee [egee@mhp.school.nz](mailto:egee@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 24: Miss Gina Heo [gheo@mhp.school.nz](mailto:gheo@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 25: Mr Bill McCutcheon [bmccutcheon@mhp.school.nz](mailto:bmccutcheon@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 26: Mrs Katie McAra [kmcara@mhp.school.nz](mailto:kmcara@mhp.school.nz)  
LZ 27: Miss Marcella Djongianto [mdjongianto@mhp.school.nz](mailto:mdjongianto@mhp.school.nz)

#### **Homework:**

Your child should be **reading** six times per week for at least 30 minutes, with the hope students can read ten books a term. Students are expected to choose and read their own books from our school library or from their own sources. Students are also able to read material on the Reading Eggs site.

**Mathletics** is an important part of your child's homework. The SLC has an expectation that students gain a minimum of 1000 points in Mathletics each week. This should take approximately 15 – 20 minutes a night. In addition, students are expected to know their subtraction and addition facts to 20 and their multiplication facts to 10×10. Students **spelling** lists will be based on individual needs. The spelling list will be generated from words they have difficulty spelling in their writing as well as high frequency words they are not yet able to spell. These words will be written in their home-school partnership notebook each Monday and should be practised daily.

Year 6 students will also be adding **blogging** to their weekly homework expectations. This will give students a chance to practice the skill of reflective writing. Links to their blogs will be shared with you in due course and you are encouraged to read your child's blog and comment on it regularly.

## "Growing Excellence"



Remember that the school library is open until 3.30pm in the afternoon to allow for those families who don't have access to broadband internet connection. Students are also able to access the internet in their Learning Zones from 8am to catch up on home or school learning.

### **Topics covered this term:**

The overarching topic for 2018 across the school is 'The Future'. The SLC will begin this study in Term 1 with a science focus, in particular looking at physical phenomena, such as movement, forces, electricity and magnetism, light, sound waves, and heat. Teachers have been busy planning a wide range of hands on investigations for students to develop their understanding of the physical world.

In Strand **Maths** this term we will be looking at both measurement and geometry. We will also be looking at a variety of types of **writing** that fit with our Integrated Studies. This will include scientific reports, explanations and factual recounts. In **reading**, students will read at their own level while practicing specific reading strategies. We will be tying our reading in with our Integrated Studies and our writing topics. There will be a major emphasis on students enjoying reading and reading complete books. For **PE and health** the main focus for this term will be on swimming, we also have external coaches coming in to take lessons in both softball and netball.

### **Swimming**

The swimming programme has now commenced for all students in the SLC. Please ensure your child has a waterproof bag with togs, towel and goggles (where possible) every week on their swimming day. If your child cannot swim for any reason on a particular day please ensure you send a note or email to their class teacher. Students who are not swimming will remain at school in another class.

Thursday swimming: LZs 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24

Friday swimming: LZs 16, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27

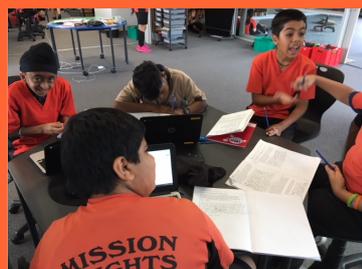
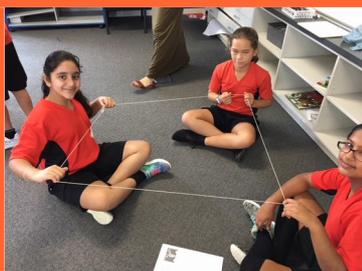
### **School Uniform:**

- It is important that students wear their correct uniform to and from school each day.
- Students are no longer allowed to wear long sleeved black tops underneath their short sleeved shirts. They must wear the long sleeved school top.
- Students must wear the correct black school shoes and the correct length black socks. Students are not to wear ankle socks with their lace-up shoes.
- Please ensure that your child has their PE gear at school every day. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. Senior students do some form of fitness or sport every day, as such, it is a good idea, if possible, for students to have an extra PE top.
- Hats are a part of the school uniform during Term One. We also recommend students wear sunscreen for break time and sports sessions at this time.

### **Education Outside the Classroom**

The Year 6s will be attending camp at Lakewood Lodge during Week 8 (Tuesday 20 to Friday 23 March). We would like all Year 6 students to attend. Camp is a rewarding, challenging, and valuable experience. It

## **“Growing Excellence”**



enables students to develop confidence, independence, self management and responsibility. You will by now have received information notices, payment details and permission slips. Please endeavour to complete the forms as soon as possible. There will be an information night regarding camp on Monday 19th February at 6pm in The Meeting Place.

Year 5 students will be attending a two night camp in Term 4. Year 5 parents will receive further information about this camp later in the year.

Year 4 students will be attending a one day education outside the classroom experience in Term 2 at Birkenhead. The full day trip will enable students to take part in a range of outdoor experiences such as horse riding and small animals, flying fox, rope swing and water confidence course. More information about this trip will be sent home closer to the date.

### **General Reminders**

As we move into the new school year please take the time to ensure that the office has up-to-date email addresses and current phone numbers as it is vital from a health and safety point of view that we can contact you at any given time.

The school day begins at 8.30am, so please ensure your child is at school with sufficient time to get organised for the school day. This may include getting changed into fitness gear, finishing activities and completing their communications.

### **Expectations**

Mission Heights Primary School is a school that prides itself on “Growing Excellence/Kia Hiranga Ake”. We have high expectations of all our students, no matter what their age. This refers to their academic achievement, the presentation of learning and their behaviour in and out of school. Respect, politeness, kindness and personal responsibility are all highly valued by all the MHP school community and enhance our wonderful, caring environment where every individual is valued.

### **English Language Lessons**

English Language lessons continue for adults in the meeting place on Thursday 9.15am – 11.15am. All welcome.

**Regards**  
**The Senior Learning Community Teachers**