



Purapura Room Five Weekly Update, Week 1.

Kia Ora to our Purapura Room Five parents and whānau,

Highlights of our week include:

- **Welcome back to a new year of learning.** I trust you had a lovely summer holiday. Grant, Sarah and Ms Thompson had a fabulous time. We went to Ohope and went land yachting, swimming, horse riding, jetskiing, swimming, swimming and more swimming. We also spent time with family and friends. Mr & Mrs D spent time relaxing with family and friends.
- **Purapura:** Mrs Davenport and myself liked the name so much we have decided to keep Purapura as a name for our block. Mrs D's class will be Purapura Room 6 with NE and Yr 1's. I will be Purapura Room 5 with Yr 2's.
- **Before school:** Children are required to be at school by 8.55am ready for learning, again they are expected to carry their own belongings and put bags and bookbags in the appropriate places themselves.
- **Collecting your children:** At the end of the day your children will come out to the gate to meet you with their bags, if possible please be at school by 3pm. The focus here is that children are learning the key competency 'managing self' which includes being responsible of looking after themselves and their belongings therefore, lots of encouragement to be independent. It would be helpful if you would show your child how to pack their own school bag.
- **Bookbags:** The children must bring their bookbags, Kluwell books, and poetry books to school everyday as we use them each day.
- **Homework:** Your child will bring home their book bag everyday. Children will have readers to read and please take time to read with your child and sign their Kluwell books, this should be a fun activity not a chore. Books to read could be either school readers, children's favourite book from home, poetry book, or a library book. All notices will be in their book bags so please check for these everyday - reminders of events will be in these updates and also in the School Newsletter and on the School Website.
- **Reading:** Next week the children will be put into groups for reading from the data we had from last year. These may not be correct and we will be sorting this out within the next few weeks. Do not be concerned if your child is bringing home a book you may feel is too easy. Your child is getting reading mileage from books that they are confident reading and this will also assist them with their fluency.
- **Swimming:** We are currently swimming Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs in the last block of the day. This is a curriculum subject therefore compulsory so please ensure your child has their togs every day or a note from home if unable to participate.
- **Bible in Schools:** We have religious instruction every Wednesday morning for ½ an hour 9.00 to 9.30 this includes singing, a story and an activity sheet - teachers remain in the class during this time - you do have the option to opt out should you want to this is decided from the beginning of the year NOT half way through the year. This will start on Wednesday 21st February.

- **Small School Swimming:** We will be heading to Paparimu School for our Junior swimming sports on Friday February 16th from 9.30am to 2.00pm and leaving school at 9.00am - the permission slip has been sent home and this needs to be returned by Monday at the latest as we need to sort out transport and contact those parents.
- **Discovery:** We will continue Discovery daily for 45 minutes to develop the students Key Competencies of managing self, thinking, using language symbols and text, participating and contributing, and relating to others.
- **Life Education:** The students of Purapura will be attending Life Education lessons in the Life Education caravan following the health curriculum. There is a small cost of \$5.00 per student for two 45 minute lessons. This will start in week one.
- **Water:** Hunua School's policy is that students only drink water at school. Please ensure, especially as it is very hot at the moment, that your child has a drink bottle with water.
- **Milk in Schools:** Hunua School has milk supplied to those students who wish to have a carton each day. This is NOT compulsory it is the child's choice. If your child has any allergies please notify your child's teacher.
- **Hats:** It is compulsory for all children to wear hats outside in Term 1 and 4 - No hats then children are required to play under the eaves or oak tree and out of the sun.
- **Notices:** You will have a LOT of notices that parents are required to fill in. This is routine at the beginning of each year. It is crucial that you put your child's name on every form as we often have a lot of unidentified forms come back.

You can contact us by email:

Mrs Davenport hdavenport@hunua.school.nz

Ms Thompson mthompson@hunua.school.nz

Regards,

Merlyn Thompson and Helen Davenport, Purapura Teachers.