



# SOUTH HORNBY SCHOOL



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## JUNIOR SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER Term 1 – February 2010

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back, we hope you had a relaxing Christmas with your children and families, and had a chance to enjoy some of the warm weather.

A big welcome to any new parents/families to South Hornby. Thank you for choosing South Hornby School, we are sure you and your children will enjoy your time with us.

### Topics for Term 1

We are beginning the term with a focus on **Me, Myself and I**. We will be looking at what makes each of us unique and discussing classroom and school rules.

We will continue to look at the South Hornby School **Values** of: Respect; Integrity and Honesty; Initiative; Excellence; and Love of Learning.

This term our inquiry focus is **Pets**. The school wide overarching understanding is “responsibility for ourselves, our community and the environment.” We will focus on our responsibility for looking after living creatures, and how peoples’ choices influence living creatures and the environment.

We are organising some exciting outings, trips and visitors, and we wish to advise you early that you should budget \$20 for trips away from the school in Term 1 and 2.

### Stationery

Thank you for making sure your child started the school year with the necessary stationery items. It is vital that your child has the correct stationery to enable them to do their work. (This includes having their Reading Folder at school each day.) Please ensure that all Year 2 children’s **Portfolio books** are returned from last year and handed to the classroom teacher.

### Uniforms

As the weather is warmer children tend to take their sweatshirts off during the day. **Please ensure your child's clothing is named** – at the end of the day we often have sweatshirts left in classrooms with no name on them at all, and quite regularly children go home with someone else’s sweatshirt on and their one still in the classroom. Use a permanent marker pen on the tag but we also suggest that you write on the fabric inside the waistband as well.

We find it easier for children to keep **their sunhat at school** in their desk. Often if they go home they do not come back. Your child needs their **school sunhat** every day – morning tea and lunch time – or they will be unable to play fully.

### Before School

Children need to **wait or play outside** prior to the **8.30am bell** ringing. No one should be in classrooms before then. Teachers are in classrooms from 8.30am and are then able to supervise children.

## Swimming

We hope to make the most of the summer weather and swim at every chance we get. Please ensure your child has their named swimming togs and towel **each day**. Even if the weather is unfavourable in the morning it can turn out hot later in the day. It is really helpful if your child can change into their togs and back into their uniform independently. Please also make sure that each item of your child's clothing is named to help us return clothing to the rightful owners. We also would like girls with long hair to have it tied up for swimming.

## Helping your Child

We work hard to provide appropriate learning activities for the children in our classes. You, as parents and caregivers, can also help your children make the most of these important learning years.

**Every day** your child needs:

- To complete their Reading and/or Spelling homework, and return their **reading folder** to school **every day**.
- To do things for **themselves**, like packing and unpacking their **own schoolbag**, and carrying their own school bag into school each day.
- To be at school **on time** - school starts at 9am.
- Time to **play and chat** with classmates and their Teacher prior to the bell ringing at 9am - they are able to do this independently when **parents/caregivers leave prior to the bell** ringing.
- A good night's sleep.
- A good breakfast before school and a nutritious lunch and drink of **water**.
- Limited "screen" time on the TV, play station, video or computer.
- Outside play time.
- A quiet story time.
- Praise to encourage them.

## Can you help?

We would greatly appreciate donations of the following: Clean plastic containers (ice cream containers, margarine containers, etc); Magazines; Newspapers; Old shirts that can be used as paint shirts in Art sessions; Plastic shopping bags; Egg cartons; Wool; Material; Textured objects for rubbings – sandpaper, buttons, corrugated cardboard, etc

If you are willing to help out in a Junior classroom please let us know as well. Having an extra pair of hands is invaluable.

You may be able to listen to a Reading group, help at Story Writing time, mend books, prepare resources, etc.

There may be times when you wish to talk to your child's teacher. We want to talk to you too. Please feel free to discuss things with us but try and remember that during class time we will need to be with your children.

We would please ask parents to leave the classroom by the time school starts at 9.00am and not to enter classrooms prior to the bell going at home time which is 2.50pm. We appreciate your support with this matter.

Teachers can be reached by phone before and after school, and will also be in the classroom from 8.30am and available to speak to you then. You can also organise a time to talk out of class time.

Regards

Angela Jones (Junior Syndicate Leader), Margaret Richards, Lyndsey McGuinniety, Katie Petheram, Anne Pratt, Rosemary Waugh