



SOUTH HORNBY SCHOOL

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JUNIOR SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER Term 2 – April 2010

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back, we hope you had a relaxing two weeks with your children in the holidays.

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. We would also like to welcome **Mrs Kirsten Harris-Tatana** (Room 6) back from her maternity leave. We are excited to have her join our syndicate and we are looking forward to her expertise in many areas.

Topics for Term 2

We will continue to look at **Pets** for the beginning of the term, apart from Room 6 who are getting to know their new teacher.

Our main focus for Term 2 is **Skool Stars**. The school wide overarching understanding is “responsibility for ourselves, our community and the environment.” We will focus on our responsibility for looking after musical instruments, and how peoples’ choices influence others. Each class will be learning to sing their Skool Stars song and adding choreography to it. We will be incorporating Technology to our focus by making musical instruments. We are also excited about learning some new Jump Jam songs this term.



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

Discovery

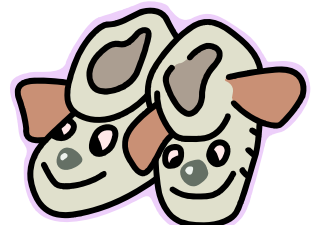
This term we are changing our Developmental programme in to **Discovery**. Discovery is an **activity-based** programme (similar to Developmental) that provides an exciting environment to strengthen the **key competencies** and bring **fun** into children’s learning. In a rapidly changing world, employers are asking for workers who can communicate effectively, think flexibly, find creative solutions, work collaboratively, and form good relationships with others. Children need opportunities to explore, practise, and develop these skills at school. Discovery provides an authentic context in which to provide these opportunities.

Stationery

Some children may require some stationery items like pencils or glue sticks. Your child’s classroom teacher will let you know if this applies to you.

Winter

Winter is approaching fast and we enjoy our toasty warm classrooms. Children tend to strip off **sweatshirts** so please ensure they are **well named**, on tags and on waistbands. When shoes begin to get muddy and wet we encourage children to take them off inside classrooms to keep the carpet clean. Children are welcome to bring a pair of slippers to wear inside if they wish. It is advisable to pop a **jacket** in the bottom of your child’s bag everyday for when we move around the school to the library, hall, IT room, etc – just in case the weather packs up. Children no longer need their sunhats.



Sickness

As winter approaches so do winter colds and the flu. We encourage children to **cough and sneeze into their elbow**, rather than their hand and we encourage children to use the classroom **tissues**. To help germs and bugs spreading to others, please keep your child at home if they are really unwell, miserable, coughing constantly or congested. It would also be helpful if your child knows how to use a tissue to blow their nose properly.

Before School

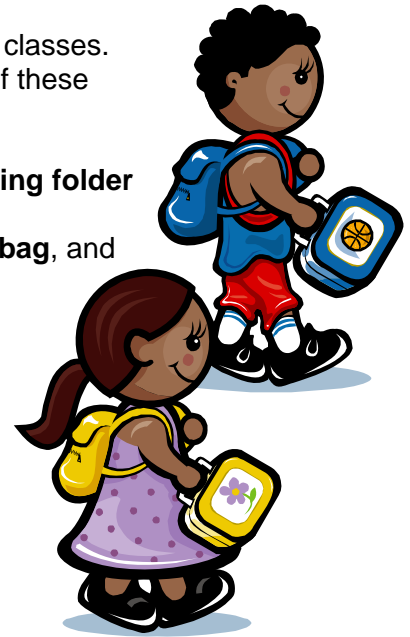
Children need to **wait or play outside** prior to the **8.30am bell** ringing. No one should be in classrooms before then. Teachers are in classrooms from 8.30am and are then able to supervise children.

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.



PMP

Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP) aims to give children experiences by seeing, hearing, touching and making perceptual judgments and reacting through carefully sequenced activities which children enjoy doing. These include running, hopping, skipping, jumping, balancing, crawling, climbing, throwing, catching, bowling, spinning sliding etc, using a variety of common and specially designed equipment. All going to plan we will be starting PMP part way through Term 2, once the resource building is complete and we can retrieve the equipment from the storage container. Further notices will come home asking for **parent volunteers to help us** run this valuable programme that all Year 1 and 2 children will participate in.

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; Cardboard tubes; Beer bottle lids; Clean Polystyrene meat trays; 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. Pop in and indicate your willingness to help to your child's teacher or Mrs Jones.

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, Kirsten Harris-Tatana, Rosemary Waugh

