



SOUTH HORNBY SCHOOL



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Senior Syndicate Newsletter – Term 1 2012

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome back to South Hornby School for 2012. The Senior Syndicate teachers this year are Mrs Lyndsey McGuinniety (Room 15), Mr Mark Maddren (Rm 16), Mr Hitchcock (Rm 17), Mr Richard Breach (Rm 8) and Miss Sarah Johnson (Senior Syndicate release teacher). We are excited about teaching your children and I know you will give us your support throughout the year.

I'd like to welcome new parents to the Senior Syndicate for 2012. I trust that you will enjoy being part of the team to offer rewarding experiences to the children of South Hornby School.



Mr Breach



Mrs McGuinniety



Mr Maddren



Miss Johnson



Mr Hitchcock

Behaviour Management

Values teaching plays a big part in our behaviour management programme. With effective teaching of our school values, we can minimize many interruptions and distractions.

Your children have the right to be taught in a safe environment and we work hard to provide this with the support of all the children and parents. Along with this right we must remember that children have an obligation to take responsibility for their learning and behaviour as we can only teach effectively when children are prepared to learn. To this end the teachers of the Senior Syndicate expect children to behave appropriately both in class and in the playground. All children need to understand the consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

Teachers in each class have a step system to follow which includes fair warnings. The school Behaviour Management Policy covers all situations that go beyond this. Children may be removed from the class to have time out, sent to the Syndicate Leader, or sent to the Principal who may ask parents to remove the child for varying periods of time. Naturally we hope this does not occur but we ask for your support should we need to resort to this.

Parent Help

We understand how busy parents are these days however, we have always been able to count on your support for trips and I hope this continues this year. We have many exciting activities planned for this year and hope to involve you wherever possible.

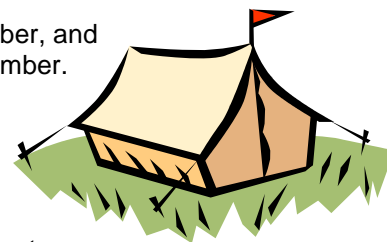
We plan to have trips linked closely to our learning and we will need parent help to enable us to take the children away from school for these. There may well be other times we will need to ask for your help and I hope the wonderful responses we have had in the past will continue.

Trips

The Senior Syndicate has planned a trip for Term 1 to Spencer Park and the beach. The date for this trip is 15 March with a postponement date a week later. The cost of this trip is \$3.50 and each family will be invoiced for this amount. This cost includes a \$3.00 PTA subsidy. More details will be sent home later.

Camp

This year the Year 5 children will be going to Blue Skies in Kaiapoi 27 – 30 November, and the Year 6 children will be going to Glentui Meadows from 30 November to 2 December. The cost of these camps is \$100 and this will be included in each family's invoice. More details regarding these Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) programmes will be available in Term 4



Homework

The Senior Syndicate will not be setting formal weekly homework sheets for children to complete. However, we expect children to read for 15 minutes each night and to practise their basic addition and subtraction facts to 20, times tables and spelling. There may be times when homework will be sent home and this will usually be linked to what they are learning in the classroom. Children may complete optional research studies (not compulsory) on a current event or an interest topic. These will be seen by the teacher and may be discussed with the child but they will not be marked.



Sunhats / Clothing

Children must wear sunhats (red bucket) for all playground activities. These need to be our school uniform hats. If a child does not have a hat they will spend this time under the trees in the shade. Please ensure all hats are named clearly. Head lice are always a threat but to minimise this please encourage children to tie back long hair.

Jewellery

As a safety issue, we would like to ask that children do not wear dangly earrings to school. Studs are fine as they are unlikely to be caught on anything during sports and / or games. Rings, necklaces, bracelets and bangles are not to be worn.



Swimming

Swimming is a very important part of our programme. The Senior Syndicate will be swimming on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We need your support to ensure all children get the opportunity to learn to swim. If there is a serious medical reason that prevents your child from swimming, please send a note to the class teacher. Otherwise can you make sure togs and towels are put in bags on swimming days. Children will need to have their togs and towels (**NAMED!!!**). There may also be times when children will be offered a swim at lunchtime as a reward so togs should be at school every day.

Hotspots

The Senior Syndicate runs a before school programme called 'Hotspots'. The purpose of this programme is mainly to get the children ready to learn for the day. Most children are very excited about the work they do and will be only too pleased to discuss it with you. They begin this work as soon as they get to school and we continue for about 10 minutes after the bell. The later they arrive the less time they have to complete tasks. Parents could help by encouraging children to get to school in time.

Cell Phones

Cell phones and other electronic equipment, are not to be brought to school. If any emergency situation arises where a cell phone is needed at school it must be handed to the class teacher before school and collected before the child goes home.

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

We look forward to an enjoyable and rewarding year working with you.

Regards,

Richard Breach, Lyndsey McGuinniety, Sarah Johnson, Les Hitchcock & Mark Maddren.