

Room 2 Newsletter - Term 3 2010

Welcome to MPS!

Welcome back! I hope you had enjoyable holidays. We have said farewell to some of our old Room 2 friends, and are ready to welcome some new children for Term 3. Hopefully this newsletter proves useful. Please feel free to come in and chat about any queries you have over the coming term.

Dates for Your Diary

Unfortunately I am out of the class quite a bit this term, as I am doing a course that requires 10 days commitment (over the next two terms). On top of this I also have 3 release days to test children, do paperwork and visit kindys. I am lucky enough to have the same reliever (Mrs Cassells) for most of these dates:

Week 1 Friday 23 July
 Week 2 Wednesday 28 July
 Week 3 Tuesday 3 August
 Week 5 Wednesday 18 August
 Week 6 Tuesday 24 August
 Week 8 Wednesday 8 September
 Week 10 Tuesday 21 September

Other dates:

Art Workshop - Wednesday Aug 18th
 Interviews - Sept 8th and 9th
 Teacher Only Day - Monday 13th Sept
 Loud Shirt Muffin Day - Friday Sept 17th
 Reports Home/End of Term - Sept 24th

Homework

Keep up the great work with the homework. It is great to have such supportive parents, working with their children at home and signing homework every night. If you are unsure about anything - please come and ask.



Art Workshop

On 18th August we have an Art workshop that children will be participating in. They will need to pay \$3 to the office. We have run this programme for the last 2 years and are always amazed at the results the children achieve.

Curriculum

The topic we will be covering this term is Energy and Movement (Forces). We will be finding out about the different kinds of energy that can be applied to objects to make them move. Forces that we will look at will be human energy (push and pulls), electricity, and wind power. Children will look at how energy can be changed in order to change their effect on objects. We will look at basic everyday technology that helps us in our lives.

For Literacy, our main focus, as always, will be for the children to learn their phonics. This knowledge underpins both Reading and Writing, and is ESSENTIAL. We will be looking at non-fiction books, in particular books with labels and diagrams, and having a go at writing labels and simple reports on our science activities.

For Maths this term, we will cover three strands:

- Number Knowledge - Reading, counting, ordering numbers forwards/backwards
- Number Strategies - Addition/subtraction, grouping and sharing, fractions
- Geometry - Exploring transformation, reflection and rotation of shapes
- Measurement - Giving and following instructions using direction and turns



Newsletters

Remember to look in your child's bag every Tuesday for the school newsletter - it will keep you up to date with various events at school. There are always extra copies at the office on the desk. You can also access the newsletter on the new MPS website. Take a look, as it's a fantastic website.

www.masterton.school.nz

American Hot Dogs

Our school fundraising is back on this term. A set meal of a hot dog and hot drink for \$3.50 will help raise funds for the school. This is available every Wednesday, with orders taken outside the hall.



Year 6 are also raising money for their end of year camp. They are selling spaghetti and cheese buns on a Friday for \$2.50. Again, orders taken at the office.

News Day

Every Monday the children have the opportunity to share their weekend news with the class. If your child wants to bring a toy or something to show, Monday is the best time to do this. I try to encourage interesting toys or items that they can talk a lot about. Often children, just like to share 'talking' news about something they did over the weekend.

Student Teacher

We welcome to Room 2, a student teacher from Massey University. Miss Tunnicliffe will be spending four weeks with us, doing various activities, taking groups and teaching the class.

Home Time

Thanks to those people who are happy to wait outside at home time - there are several good reasons for it. We pride ourselves on making sure we know who the kids are going home with to keep them safe, but it is difficult with people coming and going in the door. Often the new children find it hard, as they want to run out and see their mum, and then get upset because maybe she is not there yet. It is also a very hectic time of the day, making sure everyone is packed (independently) and notices are given out.



Independence

One of the biggest things your child will learn in their first year of schooling, is independence. This is a vast area that covers everything from self-management skills to social skills in the playground. Your help in the area of independence is appreciated immensely by us. Think about how you can give your child responsibility and independence. You can help by encouraging your child to:

- pack/unpack their own bag
- help with jobs at home
- get dressed/undressed by selves
- put on/off shoes by selves
- talk about their feelings and problems in order to solve minor conflicts by themselves (using I statements)

Recycled Goods

Thanks to all those parents who have donated various bits and pieces to our growing arts and crafts pile. I am always on the hunt for anything you may be throwing away - especially household boxes (cereal, muesli bars, etc). You would be amazed what we can use in the class room! Keep it coming!



Uniforms

Please remember to name everything! I still have children turning up with unnamed uniform items - this makes it almost impossible to trace if it gets lost.

A reminder that the Lost property bin is located in the small room beside Room 1.

PMP

Just a reminder that we are always looking for PMP helpers. If you are able to help out in the hall from 9 - 10am and are keen to be involved, please see myself or Karen Cox.

Friends of MPS

This is our PTA and new members are always welcome. Regular meetings are advertised in the newsletter.

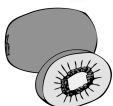
Nurse Judy Harding

Our School Nurse is on site every Monday in the small tutor room beside Room 1. She is more than happy to answer any questions you have. If your child has not had a New Entrant Check at their Early Childhood setting, she will contact you soon to arrange a meeting.



Lunches

Please help me by putting a spoon in your child's lunchbox if they have yoghurt, and cutting their fruit (eg. oranges, Kiwifruit).



Even though Winter is here, it is still useful for the children to have water bottles available in class.

PTO

...for some useful words/ideas you could discuss with your child to support learning this term

