

# **ARA TUAKANA SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER**

## **TERM 1 2010**

Welcome back everyone to the 2010 school year. We look forward to an exciting year in the Senior School with a range of challenging educational programmes planned for our Year 5/6 pupils commencing straight away of course with our outdoor education programme Motutapu Island Feb 8-12

### **Curriculum Coverage (Term 1)**

We would like to provide you with a summary of our different subject foci in the various learning areas during the first term.

**Topic Study** A Picture Paints a Thousand Words (Integrated as much as possible across all learning areas)

**Social Studies/ Health and Physical Education are the major focus areas.**

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of their own learning styles, attributes, strengths and weaknesses. They will also understand the value of setting personal goals and the fact that personal choices will always have certain consequences.

**Language** (Oral, Written and Visual)

Note taking and note focusing on the knowledge and understanding outlined above. Narrative writing. Formal language study will focus on a range of skills including identifying verbs /adverbs , recognising parts and types of sentences and writing different forms of text using the writing process.

**Mathematics**

Areas we will focus on in Term 1 are Addition and Subtraction and Statistics.

**P.E.**

Swimming programme and daily fitness. Children will need to have their togs with them on their nominated swim days. Swimming is an important part of the school programme. All children are expected to participate in this activity unless they have a medical reason for not doing so (this reason must be advised to the classroom teacher in writing please).

**Please note that in order to make maximum use of the time available during the school year to teach swimming skills certain classrooms in the senior school are timetabled to start swimming at 8.30 for one of their two weekly session.**

**They are R2 on Tuesday , R1 on Wednesday ,R4 On Thursday and R3 on Friday.**

**ICT** (Information/Communication Technology)

We will be focusing on cyber-safety initially. Skills development is an integral part of the whole class programme.

**Parent Interviews:** These are scheduled twice a term and we encourage all of you to attend these meetings regularly. It provides both parent/teacher with the opportunity to discuss your child's academic and social development throughout the year.

Should you have any urgent concerns regarding your child's academic/social welfare please make an appointment to discuss the matter with your child's teacher straight away – it is important that you don't let any issues remain unaddressed.

### **Staffing 2009**

Dr Randal Morris (Syndicate Leader) R1  
Cristal Pearson R2  
Jean Reader R3  
Matt Moncur R4  
Rebecca Walker R5  
Arron Leaity R6

### **Important Early Administrative Reminders/Advice**

**Exercise Books:** We encourage the children to cover their exercise books if possible. All children should now have their books.

### **Camp**

### **Motutapu Island Feb 8-12**

**Medication:** Please ensure your child has any medication they require named, and placed in a plastic bag. This should be given to Miss Pearson on the Monday morning of camp.

**Departure Time:** (Monday Mar 9 (9.00am from school) All children must be at school **no later than 8.30 a.m.**

### **Payment:**

**Everyone must either have paid in full or made arrangements with Kylie Reardon (Office Manager) to make payment by instalment prior to camp if their child is to participate in this outdoor education week.**

**Returning Time:** (Friday Feb 12) We anticipate arriving back to Arahoe School by **approximately 3.00 p.m. on Friday** Please ensure you are there to collect your child.

We look forward to working with you all over the coming school year.

Ara Tuakana Teachers,

Dr Randal Morris – Room 1 (Ara Tuakana Syndicate Leader)