

ROOM 3 WRITING

To begin our writing off this year, we have begun with a poetry assignment by writing a range of poems following various structures. Here is some of what we produced:

Welcome back summer

*Welcome back to the blazing hot ball of heat,
And the glimmering, crystal clear ocean,
And the beautiful breeze passing by.*

Welcome back summer.

*Welcome back to the nits upon Earth's head
And the blooming flowers dying to dawn,
And the scrambling surfers swimming to shore.*

Welcome back summer.

*Welcome back to drying up creeks,
And the sun marking red on people to skip in the water,
And making ice blocks melt to make the children cry.*

Welcome back summer.

Wait a minute...

Where's the summer breeze?

Where's the birds and bees?

And why is there fine rain drops drizzling down?

Goodbye summer...

Billie - Year 8

Undiscovered virus

Screams of pain

Cries of terror and grief

Silence in the village

Black Death

Sore, deadly, seizures

Extremely, totally deadly

Black Death

Ben - Year 8

Gaming

If I were...

If I were a pro-gamer, I would make lots of money.

If I were a beast on Call of Duty, I would join FaZe.

If I were YouTube famous, I would live stream my gameplay.

If I were H2O Delirious, I would make funny GTA5 videos.

If I were Vanoss Gaming, I would play GMOD.

If I were X_xyber, I would post game play with the bros.

If I were pewdiepie, I would be the highest paid gamer.

If Black Ops 3 wasn't invented, I would be playing Black Ops 2.

If gaming became illegal, I would break the rules to somehow play.

Antonio - Year 8



AHIPARA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NGA KORERO O TE KURA O AHIPARA



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Thursday 18th February, 2016

Number 3

Dear Parents/Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa

1) Homework

We feel that learning to manage a balance of work, sport and leisure activities will help develop life long skills and homework provides this opportunity. **With the Junior classes**, reading folders are sent home each night with two books (providing they are returned from the previous night). Some work on spelling, basic facts and independent topic work may be given where appropriate, particularly to the older junior children.

With the Middle and Senior classes, the establishing of good work habits and skills are important. Homework that is set will reflect this and should encourage independent work habits, based on follow up from class learning. Hopefully, it will also promote good home/family discussions relating to this work. The learning of spelling lists, maths (including tables) and reading will also be included. Rigid setting of nightly homework is not part of the school policy as this can often lead to loss of enthusiasm and result in a child being denied leisure and family time. However, children in both middle and senior classes will be required to complete small assignments or tasks within an allocated time period eg. a week. Children need to learn to balance their time and spread this commitment within their other pursuits. The homework record of students will allow teachers an assessment opportunity towards the key competency 'managing self'. A homework club to assist students who may find it difficult to access reference materials, etc. is operating locally.

2) Internet Safety Agreement

As most parents will know using the internet to access the vast and exciting educational sites has become part of all classrooms throughout the world. As part of our responsibility to ensure our pupils are only able to access educational sites, we have a number of safety mechanisms/procedures in place. These are listed below;

- Pupils are only allowed to access the internet with a teacher present.
- Junior pupils are supervised and assisted by a teacher when accessing the net.
- We have a "Net Nanny" installed in our server that only allows educational sites.
- Internet student agreement which outlines student responsibility when using the internet.

It is our vision that this educational tool is used in a safe and appropriate manner by all our pupils and we ask that **you discuss and if you haven't signed, please sign the attached Internet Agreement** with your child and have them return it to school.

3) Student Council 2016

Our student council for 2016 has been selected. After presenting some outstanding C.V.s, the following students have been accepted. **Ben McCarthy, Bryn Julian, Lana Harrison, Jahzara Takimoana, Danyelle Mealings, Azariah Peterson, Pipi Jobe, Tanner Wihongi, Robbie Dawson, Waiata Harrison and Amelia Cutler.** We look forward to working with this very talented team.



STUDENT COUNCIL 2016

4) Meet the Teacher Afternoon

We will be holding an informal 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon on **Tuesday 23rd February**, outside the Whare from 4.00pm - 5.30pm. We will be putting on a sausage sizzle for all those parents and children that attend this event. We will also have the pool facilities available to use during this event. Please note that the pool will only be available for families of our school. We look forward to a pleasant afternoon which we hope you will be able to attend.

5) Uniforms

Our uniforms are looking really smart! Please ensure that your child's shirts are clearly named, especially as our students are now swimming. Remember all students require a school hat for all breaks this term. The expectation is that all students are in uniform and if for any reason your child has not yet purchased a polo shirt, it is important that you contact the school. We will assist in any way that we can.

6) Library

Do you have an hour or so to spare once a week? If so, we would love to hear from you. The library team is looking for a group of parents/community members to form a **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** group. The library is always being upgraded and the more hands the better. So come on in, have a cuppa and help make our library a stimulating and vibrant learning centre.



8) School Photos

This year we are having our school photos early. We were impressed with last year's photographer and we booked early so we did not miss out on her services, as she is in high demand. Our school photos will take place on **Wednesday 2nd March**. Information forms were sent home on Monday. Please ensure you return your photo order to the office before **Monday 29th February**.

9) Mathematics Specialist Teacher

We are very fortunate this year to be involved in a Ministry of Education initiative to train a specialist maths teacher. Donna Barry is undergoing this training and will be studying at university as part of this programme. She will be working with small

groups of students to accelerate their progress in mathematics and will also be working with whanau and teachers to help with some learning ideas.

10) Assessment

Over the next few weeks students will have assessments in numeracy, reading and writing. This data is shared with students, so they know where they are, where they should be, but more importantly, they set goals for their learning. Students then conference with their teachers on what they need to do to achieve these learning goals. We welcome any inquiries about this and it would be very beneficial to your child's achievement to have conversations at home around their set goals.

11) Western Zone Swimming

Our Western Zone Swimming competition will be take place on **Tuesday 8th March**. As usual we will be sending a large contingent of pupils from Year 4 - Year 8 to the **town pool** to compete in the annual Western Zone swimming competition which involves Pukepoto, Pamapurua and ourselves. The official start time is at **9:30am**, however since we are organising this event we will be leaving school **around 8:50am**. We look forward to another awesome day and we extend a warm welcome to all parents/caregivers to come along and support your tamariki. Keep an eye out for further information in upcoming newsletters.

Kia Ora,
Jackie Osborne
Tumuaki/Principal

If you wish to receive the newsletter by email please indicate on this return slip (remember it is also on our website)

Please email me the Ahipara School Newsletter

My child's name is _____

My email address is _____

My name/signature _____

We welcome any ideas or suggestions to improve our school. Please feel free to share any ideas. Thank you