

Term 1, Feb 2nd 2010.

Room 1 Class Letter

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

Welcome back to Riverhead School and to Room 1.

To you Year 7s a special welcome as Seniors of the Senior School and to the Year 8s welcome back for 2010, your final year at Riverhead. I hope you have all had a very restful break and our students are ready for a year of good learning, fun and adventure.

THE WEEK

This year as Friday is my release day, Ms Browne will be teaching and because Monday is Tech day, Mr Mathers will be working with the remainder of the Senior students.

We have all worked together closely in planning the timetable for the teaching week. In Term 1, as well as teaching the core curriculum subjects, Mr Mathers will be teaching IT and Ms. Brown will be teaching Te Reo, Music and Art.

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING?

There is a lot happening both in and out of school this year for Seniors.

Camp

We have our Senior camp at Motutapu Island from Monday 24th May to Friday 28th May. There will be information on costs, and fundraising in Week 2.

Wellington Trip

The second Year 8 trip to Wellington will be happening at the beginning of Term 4. Last year was a blast and we cant wait to do it all again! Information to come.

Muriwai Planting

Seniors last year supported The Department of Conservation by planting out grasses at Muriwai and we look forward to these days at the beach again this year.

Tech

Tech is every Monday - for the Year 8s it is Terms 1 and 2 beginning Monday Feb. 8th. Please pay your fees if you have not already done so. Year 7s go to Tech in Terms 3 &4.

There are numerous other events and learning experiences that you will hear about particularly through the class homework letter.

HOMEWORK

We need to remind ourselves at the beginning of the year to set high expectations for our learning and our work.

Homework is given out on *Thursdays* and is due in on *Wednesdays*. This allows for those who want to use the weekend for their homework and also stops homework going amiss on Tech Mondays.

There is an expectation that students spend *at least 1/2hr* on homework per night. There will be English homework (including Spelling), Maths homework, and Topic or other where relevant. Students are also expected to read for a minimum of 10 mins. per night and to keep a reading log (this will be in the back of the homework book). Please go to your local

library or rummage through your book shelves. If you are stuck I have lots of novels at school for you to borrow on promise of return!

SWIMMING

The pool is newly painted and ready to use. Swimming is part of the PE Curriculum. All students are expected to bring their togs. Room 1 has swimming every day except for Wednesday. If you do not bring your togs please bring a note.

School Swimming Sports are in week 5 - Juniors March 4 , Seniors March 5.

TOPIC

Our focus for topic is the situation in Haiti. Bring along any information that you can for our learning.

SSR

All the senior school participates in S.S.R. (sustained silent reading) after lunch. All students are expected to have an S.S.R. book for this daily slot. I have some books at school or students may bring their own. Our library is currently unavailable due to the building project.

We look forward to an exciting and challenging year as the seniors of the school.

If you have any queries or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. My email is : philippar@riverhead.school.nz.

Regards,

Philippa Randell.