

# Welcome to Room 16



## Booyakah! What's happening this term?

Our theme for Term One revolves around getting to know our own and others personal strengths as individuals and around **walking a mile in my shoes** by using empathy with others as in the class and in the whanau.

### *E-Mail/Website*

If you have e-mail at home it would be great to have your address for fast easy communication purposes. You can also email me at any time for information regarding school or your child's learning.

[clairec@summerland.school.nz](mailto:clairec@summerland.school.nz)

A number of parents have also found texting me helpful, particularly if they were going to be late to pick up their child or their child will be absent/late. 0272941727.

Please see the school website for information about what is happening at school or in class. This will be updated regularly. There is also a downloads page which will have copies of all the Homethink sheets and letters. [www.summerland.school.nz](http://www.summerland.school.nz)

### *Stationery*

Please can all books be covered as this protects them from damage. All stationery needs to be labelled including pencils and rulers etc.

### *English*

Some aspect of the English curriculum underpins all theme-based activities. For Term One we will primarily be focussing on developing the Oral Language Skills of listening and speaking and will be focussing on Poetic Writing forms including formal letter writing and narrative stories.

Reading is a daily requirement for Homethink. Your child may read any material they choose. It is a good idea to discuss **WHAT** they have read and question them on it to help comprehension. **On Tuesday afternoons we go to the School Library where your child can take up to 2 books out at a time.**

### *Homethink*

Homethink will be handed out every Monday and collected on the Friday. Occasionally Homethink tasks involve chart making or are project based, these will usually be given over a longer period of time.

### *Numeracy – Statistics*

Numeracy will be on going throughout the year, focussing on building number knowledge and developing a variety of strategies for working with number problems. In order to find out more about one another as class members, we will be undertaking statistical investigations and will be graphing this information to display in the class.

### *The Arts*

Our focus this Term for the Arts will be on Visual Art. We will be looking at artworks from Monet and Picasso and exploring photography as an art-form.

### *Thinking*

We place a strong emphasis on thinking in Room 16 and will be using a variety of thinking tools to enhance the learning taking place within the various classroom programmes. You will see Edward De Bono's "Thinking Hats" up in the room and will be able to ask your children about them once the Term has started.

### ***Mediation***

This year Summerland will continue to be a part of the Cool Schools mediation programme. As part of this I will be teaching room 16 the basic skills of mediation and how to use it to solve problems. This is a superb programme which teaches life-long skills. It includes:

- \* philosophy and values
- \* role of mediators
- \* mediation process
- \* classroom skills
- \* handling difficult situations
- \* implementation

If you wish to know more about the programme you may like to see the cool schools website

[http://www.peace.net.nz/program\\_services.cfm](http://www.peace.net.nz/program_services.cfm)

### ***School Assemblies***

School assemblies will be on alternate Tuesday afternoons [even weeks] from 2.15 – 2.45pm in Bob [the gym] all parents are welcome to come.

### ***Food/Drinks***

Breakfast and lunch are important meals. The children need sustenance to start the day and optimise learning. Please make sure your child has a healthy balanced meal for lunch and breakfast. During terms one and four the children may have water bottles in the classroom.

### ***Parents Evening***

To be advised soon

### ***Yippee-ki-yay it's camp time!***

This term the year 5's and 6's will be going to camp at Kawau Island – Camp Bentzon in week 2. Please make sure your child is packed and ready to go on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February and they are in the hall by 7.45am with their medical and baking stuff ready to hand in.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to phone or e-mail me,

Claire Cheeseman ☺