

Welcome to Room 22



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 **working as a team/class**, we will be looking at a bugs life to see how different bugs work as a team to achieve their goals.

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

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. 027 294 1727.

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. We will also have a class blog going, you can follow this at <http://ithinksummerland.blogspot.com/> you can also see some of the blog posts from last year, this gives you a good idea of how we use the blog. Our blog will be the main source of finding out what is happening in the class and what is interesting our students. They will be encouraged to post on the blog at least twice a week throughout the year.

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 3 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. There will be rare occasions when homethink is not set due to other activities. You can always download the current Hoethink sheet off our school website under our class name.

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 blending techniques and using spatial awareness.

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

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. [Please note that at some point this year the gym will be out of action for building]

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/Meet the teacher

Meet the teacher will be this THURS notice to follow. 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 8th February and they are in the hall by 7.45am** with their medical and baking stuff ready to hand in to a teacher.

If you have any queries regarding camp or worries, please do not hesitate to come and have a chat. It is an amazing experience that your child will remember for years to come.

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

Claire Cheeseman ☺