



Term 4, 2023
Years 0 - 2 Learning Overview



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to all our Junior School families! A special warm welcome to the new families who have joined the Junior School this term.

We are very pleased to welcome Jack into 1LF, Tessa and Gabby into 1LT along with Elijah, Sana and Parker into JCJ. We trust you have a happy and productive Term 4 with us.

Hamilton Gardens Trip

Term 4 is full of stimulating learning for all our Year 1 and 2 students. To support our inquiry learning into *Who We Are - Ko Wai Matou*, we are very excited to be taking a trip to Hamilton Gardens during Week 4. Our trip to the Hamilton Gardens will focus on the various cultural contexts of each garden and the cultural connections to the students.

Trip date and time: Thursday 2 November, 8.30am-12pm
Venue: Hamilton Gardens, Cobham Drive SH1C, Hamilton
Postponement Day: Thursday 9 November, 8.30am-12pm

Click [here](#) to view our trip newsletter which has been emailed home to parents and caregivers.

Learning Programmes

Our Term 4 learning programmes have been carefully designed to optimize your child's learning and management of school life. This is assisted by:

- The establishing of routines and independence - a focus that is continually reinforced.
- A positive behaviour programme focusing on 'good choices' and 'self- management'.
- Having your child at school on time to enable them to have a positive start to the day (between **8.00am and 8.20am** ideally). Students will be supervised from 8am. If your child needs to be here earlier than 8am please make sure they head to the Library, just note that this will not be supervised.
- Encouraging your child to return what they need to bring to class each day.
- Ensuring that all items of clothing are clearly named, especially hats and shoes.

After a busy day, Year 1 children may be picked up from school any time after 2.30pm. This will help with the tiredness young children experience with our extra-long school day. However, teachers will still be running learning programmes with children who wish to stay until 3.20pm. After-School Care will still be available for those who wish to use it.

Lunches/Snacks

Named water bottles are important, especially with this hot weather. Please send a drink bottle along each day. Children will be able to access their drink bottles at any time of the day. We will have a fruit/vegetable break each morning, additional to their morning tea. Please provide your child with some sliced/peeled fruit or vegetables, or a small container of raisins or other dried fruit. **Please NO NUTS (we are a nut-free school).**

Physical Education

Year 1 PE days are on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Students wear their grey uniforms to school on **Monday, Tuesday, and Friday**. Students wear their PE gear to school on **Wednesday, and Thursday**. On **Friday** they bring their PE gear to school in their PE bag.

Year 2 PE days are on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Students wear their grey uniforms to school on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. Students wear their PE gear to school on **Tuesday, and Thursday**. On **Friday** they bring their PE gear to school in their PE bag.



Learning in Year 1&2

Literacy

Structured Literacy is part of our classroom programme. Children learn how sounds and symbols (letters) work together, building their foundational skills. This approach also emphasises vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and spelling rules, equipping children with the necessary tools to become confident readers and writers.

Reading

In our reading journey, we start by introducing sounds to letter names. To reinforce learning we send these letters home on a ring. As children gain confidence with certain letter names and vowel sounds, we provide them with a decodable book. Some of these books will come home as part of our home learning programme, while other decodable books will remain at school. These texts are carefully selected to align with their learning throughout the week. Once children have mastered the foundation spelling and reading concepts, we introduce a variety of other traditional-style reading books to further enhance their learning at school.

Writing

In our writing sessions, we integrate Structured Literacy to help children express their ideas with confidence and encourage them to use words they already know, while also guiding them in sounding out and recording unfamiliar words. Alongside this, children receive explicit instructions and sequential spelling rules to strengthen their writing skills.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, students are looking at the number strand with particular focus on addition and subtraction. In Year 2 students will be moving into more complex addition and subtraction. Emphasis is placed on using practical activities and knowledge based games. Other mathematical learning this term includes money, position and orientation .

Social Science and Art

Aligned with our school-wide Big Idea - *Who We Are - Ko Wai Matou*, we will explore our own identities and the diverse cultures within our families and communities. Looking into *Ko Wai Matou* will help to foster self-awareness, respect, and cultural appreciation among our students. Using various forms of literacy, we will discuss and record our findings. Additionally, we'll express our exploration artistically.

Specialist Subjects

We are also lucky to have the support of our Specialist Teachers who teach Te Reo, Christian Education, Music, Physical Education, and Drama in Year 2. In Year 1, we work hard to limit the amount of changes in teachers for students. Year 1 students will still go to Physical Education and Music with the Specialist teachers and Chaplain will lead us in Christian Education into the Christmas Season.



Te Reo

Along with the continuation of building vocabulary and simple phrases, Year 2 Te Reo will be a waiata focus, with tamariki learning simple waiata and action songs including Christmas carols in te reo.

Christian Education

Students will begin the focus toward Advent and the story of Christmas.



Music Year 1

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice through singing a range of folk songs individually and with others. The students will become more confident in singing the pitches so, mi, and using the solfa hand signs. Students will also continue to learn to read and notate crotchet and quaver rhythms in songs.

This term, students will also be focusing on preparing for their Nativity performance. The Year 1 and 2 Nativity will take place on Monday 11th December at 11.30am.

Music Year 2

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice by singing a range of folk songs individually and with others. The students will become more confident in singing the pitches so, mi, la and do and using the solfa hand signs. Students will continue to notate ta, ti-ti, tika-tika and Za (crotchets, quavers, semiquavers and rests) rhythms in songs. Students will be learning to play these songs on tuned percussion instruments and begin to notate them on the stave. This term, students will also be focusing on preparing for their Nativity performance. The Year 1 and 2 Nativity will take place on Monday 11th December at 11.30am.

Physical Education

Athletics (Weeks 1-5) - Students will learn techniques and tips in preparation for their Year 1&2 track and field events on the School Athletics Day in Week 6.

Water Confidence (Weeks 7-9) - Students will build their confidence and survival skills in the water through various water safety scenarios in preparation for future pool, beach, river and lake adventures.

Fundamental Skills (Weeks 7-9) - Students will revisit some of their favourite learning activities from the year based around the development of fundamental skills.

Library

In the Library we introduce the children to new books, talk about books they have read, and return, reserve and issue books. We also teach the children the basic routines and skills which will enable them to use the Library independently. We are supporting our school-wide Big Idea - *Who We Are - Ko Wai Matou* with our reading pit sessions. We have a full term of adventure and fun in Year 1 and 2.

Calendar and Week Ahead

Click **HERE** for the Term 4 School Calendar. Please note - this is updated regularly so please check it often. Please also read the Week Ahead that is emailed to parents every Friday to keep informed of what is happening at Southwell. We also pop a 'Sneak Peek' into your child's diary each Monday morning, which is another way for you to access the information you need for the coming week.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or queries about the coming term.

Kind regards,

Linda Tiffany (Dean)

Jane Savage

Jodie Carter

Louise Filipo

Christine Jones

Bridget Coleman

Katharine Gould

