



**SOUTHWELL  
SCHOOL**

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## **Term 4, 2023** **Year 6 Learning Overview**



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 4. We hope you and your family have had a restful holiday and are ready for the term ahead. It is hard to believe that this is the final term for the year. Like always, the upcoming weeks are going to be very busy. The highlight for Year 6 among other things will be the Year 6 Pantomime, Goldilocks which the children will perform at the end of the year.

For our Big Idea for the second half of the year we will be continuing our big idea Kotahitanga - Who We Are. This unit will involve students exploring various aspects of their own family histories. Some of the activities could include researching when and how their families came to New Zealand, creating family trees, discussing important and significant traditions, examining family heirlooms and taonga, conducting interviews with family members, and identifying important historical events that may have impacted their families. Students will use creativity to express their findings in an interactive display that showcases their learning and understanding.

## **Year 6 Assessments**

Wednesday, 25th of October is our New Students Testing day. All of the Year 6's will be involved in sitting the CAMs tests, English, Mathematics and Reasoning, which will help the school with their placement into Year 7 classes in 2024.

As we move forward to the end of the year all other assessments will be completed by teachers as part of the daily classroom routines e.g. Reading PROBES, writing samples and mathematics assessments including PAT tests.



## **Athletics**

Athletics trials will be held all day on Thursday, 16th of November. Our whole school Athletics day is scheduled for Friday, 24th of November. Please feel free to bring along a picnic and umbrella, set up and enjoy supporting your child by being a part of this great event. Year 6 students compete in the shot put, discus, cricket ball throw, long jump, high jump, 100m, 200m, 75m hurdles, 800m, 1500m (optional).

## **Learning in Year 6**

### **Reading**

In Reading we are continuing to look at reading for enjoyment, finding books that are a good fit and exploring a range of different genres. In teaching sessions, the focus is on asking questions, activating prior knowledge, making connections and scanning text for information, while understanding the purpose of the text.

### **Writing**

In Writing we will continue to use different stimuli to encourage and inspire our writing and work on individual goals. We are looking at the structure and features of different types of writing that support our learning across all areas of the curriculum.



### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics students are looking at the strands of Number, Algebra and Statistics. Emphasis is placed on problem solving in real world application. Mathematics will continue to be used to consolidate class learning.

### **Science – Ms Voss**

In Term 4 students will be exploring some of the many disciplines of Forensic Science. We will look at simple genetic concepts, chromatography, fingerprinting, footprints and how these can be used in investigations to both eliminate and identify suspects.



### **Technology – Mrs Savage**

This term children are given time to complete their hard copy recipe books. Children will then design and create a Christmas card set using recycled paper. We are making our own paper. A variety of materials and tools will be on offer to the classes. Creativity is key.

### **Physical Education – Mr Norman, Mrs Gregory, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Hawthorn**

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

Water Confidence (Weeks 6-9) - 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.

Badminton (Weeks 6-9) - Students will learn the skills and rules associated with playing badminton in light of them playing this sport in the near future, competitively or socially.

### **Christian Education – Rev Pickering**

In Term 4 Christian Education, the students will continue piecing together the jigsaw puzzle of who Jesus Christ is, by connecting the Old and New Testaments. As we lead up to Christmas, we will also discuss the significance of the nativity story and what it means for us.

### **Te Reo - Whaea Whetu**

Term 4 will focus on Ngaa Mahi-a-Rehia (games and activities) including the poi, strings games, tititorea and hand eye coordination activities - all which use a variety of simple te reo structures and vocabulary.



### **Music – Mrs McIntyre**

During Term 4 students will return to the ukulele. However, this time instead of focusing on chords, we will be learning to play melodically by learning to pluck tunes, playing in groups and then incorporating the chords again.

### **Drama – Mrs Walker**

Students will create and perform a character in the 2023 Year 6 Pantomime, “Goldilocks”. They will work collaboratively using dramatic conventions to develop a class scene and perform a dance. We are looking forward to presenting this show on Tuesday 5th December.



### **Art - Mrs Wing**

The Year 6 students are learning about the elements of art and the building blocks used by artists to create an artwork. Through a range of lessons, they are encouraged to develop their skills using various techniques and materials. Students will have many opportunities to create artworks emphasizing key elements: line, shape, form, space, color, and texture.

### **Pottery – Mrs Wathen**

In Pottery students are learning to use mold, texture and pinch techniques to form a variety of fish forms. They will also learn to use the heat gun and further their glazing skills. Students continue to create artworks inspired by 'Under the Sea'.

### **Library – Mrs Huggins**

In the Library we will continue to promote engaging literature, encourage critical thinking and reinforce inquiry skills. Children will also be encouraged to spend quality time with their book of choice and read for pleasure. Alongside reading for pleasure, there will be two lessons where students will be encouraged to move outside their comfort zone and explore a different type of literature. Teachers can choose to request reinforcement of specific skills if it suits their classroom programme.

Summer Reading will be offered closer to the end of Term 4, which students can sign up to, with parent permission.

### **Devices**

A reminder that mobile phones are only to be used after 3.20pm to communicate with parents/caregivers. At all other times they must remain in students' school bags and be on silent. Please do not expect your child to reply to messages during the school day. Laptops are to be used as a learning tool only. If a student chooses to use their device inappropriately, then their laptop or phone will be taken and held by the teacher until the end of the day. Repeat offenders will be asked to leave their devices at home.

### **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.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Thank you again for your support and we are looking forward to a great last term with your children.

Darren Bryan  
Sarah Gregory  
Barb Nicholson  
Liz Donald  
**Year 6 Teachers**

