



## **Term 2, 2025**

### **Years 0-2 Learning Overview**



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2, and a warm welcome to families who have joined the Junior School. We welcome Kenzie, Lucia, Shrinika, Lucas, Bronte, and Haydn and their families to our Junior team.

Term 2 is full of exciting and stimulating learning for our Junior School students. Our programmes this term have been carefully designed to optimise your children's learning and management of school life. This is assisted by:

- The re-establishment 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 enables them to have a positive start to the day.
- Encouraging your child to return what they need to bring to class each day.
- Ensuring that all items of **clothing are clearly named**, especially shoes and socks.
- Please remember we are a **NO NUT** school.

### **School Calendar**

Information that you may need regarding dates for upcoming events can be found on the School Calendar. Click [HERE](#). Please note that this PDF is updated regularly as events change or are added.

### **Week Ahead**

This will be emailed every Friday to all Southwell parents. It is important that you are getting this and you read it carefully as it has important information about what is coming up in the week ahead.

## Year 0-2 Education Outside the Classroom Trip

On **Friday, 16th April** (Week 3, Term 2), Year 2 students will be travelling by bus to Maungatautari Mountain to support our unit of inquiry – **Sharing the Planet**, where we are learning that we can make choices and take action to care for the Earth, and its resources. To view further details, please click [HERE](#) for the parent letter that was sent out on **Thursday, 24th April**.

Then, on **Tuesday, 27th May** (Week 5, Term 2), our Year 0–1 students will be heading off on a school trip to the Hamilton Zoo to support our unit of inquiry – **Sharing the Planet**, where we are learning how people interact with, use, and value the natural environment and its creatures. Please click [HERE](#) to access the parent letter also sent out on **Thursday, 24th April**.

## Book Week

Southwell Book Week starts on Monday, May 5th. Our visiting author for the juniors this year (visiting on Tuesday, May 6th) is Kat Quin, author and illustrator of *Kuwi the Kiwi*, *Flit the Fantail* and *Kiwicorn*, amongst others. There will be many exciting opportunities to embrace reading during the week - including House quizzes, class-based activities and Library competitions. The culmination of the week is always the excitement of Book Character Day (Friday May, 9th) when students dress up as their favourite book character and come to school. This is an amazing sight and we can't wait to see it all happen again! Do

have a chat with your children about **your** favourite book. These conversations create interest and highlight the success of being a reader. Click [HERE](#) for ideas if your child is still pondering what to wear!



## Useful things to note about Year 0-2

### Morning Routine

Classrooms are open by 8:00 a.m. each morning, and we would love to see children at school by 8:20 a.m., before the bell goes at 8:25 a.m. to start the day. For the cooler autumn and winter months, the Library is open earlier if you need to drop your child off on the odd occasion before 8:00 a.m. Please note that this space is unsupervised until 8:00 a.m.

If you need to talk to your child's teacher, please email or text and we will be happy to arrange a time to meet with you, as we know mornings are always busy with 5-year-olds. Writing notes in school diaries is another way to communicate with your child's

teacher as these are checked first thing in the morning. Thank you for your support.

## Learning in Year 1 & 2

Year 1 and Year 2 Units of Inquiry – **Sharing the Planet**.

In Year 1, the central idea we're exploring is: ***How people interact with, use, and value the natural environment in different ways.*** Through a variety of hands-on and meaningful learning experiences, students will discover how we connect with nature and ways we can care for the world around us.

In Year 2, our central idea is: ***We can make choices and take action to care for the Earth, and its resources.*** Students will be encouraged to reflect on their actions and think about how they can help create a more sustainable future for everyone.

Throughout these inquiries, students will build their understanding by engaging in rich discussions, reflections, and creative expression, helping them develop a deeper awareness of the world and their place in it.

### **Literacy**

In Reading, we are teaching Phonetic Awareness, Alphabetic Principle and then Reading Strategies to enable students to decode unknown words and gain meaning and comprehension from text. Specific goals are targeted according to the level of each child's reading. In the Junior block we start our reading journey by learning letter names and sounds first. These letters are sent home on a ring as we learn them in class.



In Writing, we are teaching strategies to confidently record personal experiences and enable students to share a message. We focus on using known words and attempting to write any unknown words by hearing and stretching sounds, and recording sounds they can hear in order.

Structured Literacy is a focus of our classroom literacy programme. As well as creative writing times, children are taught explicit spelling rules in sequential order. It is exciting seeing this begin to transfer into their written work.

### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics, students are looking at Number with a particular focus on addition and subtraction. Emphasis is placed on using practical activities and knowledge-based games. In strand Maths, Year 1 students will be looking at Measurement and Year 2 students will be focusing on Geometry.

**Specialist Subjects** In Years 0 and 1, we are fortunate to have the support of our specialist teachers, who deliver Christian Education, Music, and Physical Education. In addition, Year 2 students participate in Te Reo and Suzuki lessons.

### **Te Reo**

Year 2 tamariki will continue their journey through waiata, action songs, and crafts, focusing on animals and important national events such as Matariki. This learning will help deepen their understanding of Aotearoa's culture and traditions.

## Physical Education

### Ready to Roll! (Body Control and Spatial Awareness)

Students will focus on developing body control and awareness within locomotion movements as they explore swinging, rolling, balancing, jumping, landing, and moving within our gymnastics unit.

### Hit me with your best shot! (Athletic Activities)

Students will develop body control and spatial awareness while exploring striking with a variety of implements.

### Just let me PLAY!! (Games)

Students will have the chance to simply enjoy playing a sport, while also acquiring the basic fundamental skills, understanding of rules, and tactical knowledge necessary for an enjoyable experience. (Basketball, Rippa Rugby and Football)



### Year 1 PE days are on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

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

### Year 2 PE days are on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Year 2 students wear their grey uniforms to school on **Monday, Thursday and Friday** and wear their PE gear to school on **Tuesday and Wednesday**.

## Performing Arts

### Year 0&1

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice. They will continue learning to sing a range of folk songs individually and with others using mainly the pitches so and mi. Students will also start to recognise the difference between high and low sounds and begin to be able to keep in time with a song. Students will continue to work on the rhythms ta and titi (one or two sounds on a beat) and will become more confident in identifying and notating these. Students will be listening to and singing a range of music.

### Year 2

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice. They will continue learning to sing a range of folk songs individually and with others using mainly the pitches so, mi, la, and do. Students will be able to sing the sofla of those pieces. The students will continue to work on the rhythms ta, titi and za and will become more confident with our new rhythm tikatika. 2BC continues with their Suzuki Violin/Cello programme this term. Our goal is to get fingers working on the violin/cello, the bow working on the string, and bring all our exciting new instrumental skills together. 2LS will have this learning experience in Terms 3 & 4.

## Christian Education - Rev'd. Canon Neale Troon

Students will continue to explore the great Christian festivals of the Church's year, especially Pentecost which falls within this term.

## **Library**

In the Library we introduce the children to new books, talk about books they have read, read stories and they learn some library language (browse, issue, return, reserve). We also teach the children the basic routines and skills which will enable them to use the library independently.

Week 2 is Book Week and the Juniors will be visited by author Kat Quin on Tuesday. They will all be involved in a Book Quiz on Wednesday, and Book Character Day on Friday.

We hope that you will enjoy being a part of the Junior School family as we all work together to have happy, focused learners. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you again for your support.

Linda Tiffany  
Jodie Carter  
Lousie Filipo  
Christine Jones  
Bridget Coleman  
Linda Simon (Acting Dean)

## **Year 0-2 Teachers**