



Term 3, 2025
Year 0-2 Learning Overview



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It's wonderful to welcome back all our returning Year 1 and 2 families! A warm welcome also goes out to our new families joining us this term. We're so excited to have Jonty, Porter, Lilly, Calla, Leo, Benji, Katherine, and William starting their journey in Mrs. Jones' JCJ class, and Marcus joining Mrs. Carter's 1JC class. We're thrilled to have you all as part of the Southwell School community.

Term 3 will be full of stimulating learning for all our Year 1 and 2 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 gives them a positive start to the day.
- Encouraging your child to manage what they need to bring to class each day.
- Ensuring that all items of clothing are named, especially socks and shoes.

We've structured our morning for optimal learning: Literacy will be the focus from the start of the day until morning tea, followed by Maths. Students will then move to their specialist subjects and inquiry-based learning.

After a long busy day, Year 1 children may be picked up from school any time after 2.30pm each day. 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.

We offer **After-School Care** in the Junior School block for students who need supervision after 3:30pm. To ensure all children are safely looked after while teachers attend meetings or sports commitments, any child still on school grounds at 3:30pm will be automatically placed into After-School Care.

School Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for the Term 3 School Calendar. Please note this is updated regularly.



Week Ahead and Sneak Peek

To keep you informed, **The Week Ahead** will be emailed to all Southwell parents by the School Administrator each Friday. We encourage you to read this carefully as it outlines important school wide information for the upcoming week. Furthermore, on Monday mornings, your child's Year 1 or 2 teacher will provide a "**Sneak Peek**" into their classroom's activities. This summary will be emailed to Year 2 families and pasted into Year 1 diaries.

Learning Conferences

These conferences take place in **Week 3** and are an opportunity to meet one-on-one with your child's classroom teacher. *Year 0, 1 and 2 children are not required to attend Learning Conferences.* Together we will discuss settling at school, friendships, work habits, as well as academic progress. Please ensure that you are booked in to see your child's teacher so that we can discuss your child's successes, as well as the next steps to take to keep their learning moving ahead. An email will be sent out with a link for you to make a booking.

Morning Routine

Please ensure that your child arrives at school by **8.20am**, before the bell rings at **8.25am** to start the day.

Teachers are generally available in their classrooms from 8.00 am onwards.

If your child needs to be at school earlier than 8 am, please note that the library is open, but there may not always be teaching staff present.

Year 0-2 Education Outside the Classroom Trip

On **Friday, 8th August** (Week 4, Term 3), Year 2 students will be travelling by bus to Te Awamutu Museum to support our unit of inquiry – **Where We Are In Place and Time**, where we will be learning how stories and objects from the past help us see how things have changed and help us understand the world today. To view further details, please click [HERE](#) for the parent letter that was sent out on **Wednesday, 16th July**.

Then, on **Friday, 22nd August** (Week 6, Term 3), our Year 0–1 students have their school trip to the Taitua Arboretum to support our unit of inquiry – **How the World Works**, where we are learning how living things grow and change in patterns and cycles. Please click [HERE](#) to access the parent letter also sent out on **Wednesday, 16th July**.

Year 2 Literacy Parent Information Morning

All parents are warmly invited to attend a Year 2 Literacy Information Morning on **Thursday, August 14th (Week 5)**, from **8:30am to 9:10am** in the **Foyer of the Performing Arts Centre**. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Year 2 Literacy program, explore interactive stations, discover ways to support your child's literacy development at home, and speak with classroom teachers. Everyone is welcome—we look forward to seeing you there! **Keep an eye out for our Year 1 Literacy Parent Information Meeting, coming in Term 4!** It will be a great opportunity to learn more about how we support literacy in Year 1 and how you can help at home.



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**.

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 Digital Technology. Across Term 3 - 4, 2LSi will participate in Suzuki lessons.

Learning in Year 1 & 2

We are quickly settling back into our classroom routines and the structure of our rich learning programmes. These established structures provide a supportive environment for students to develop critical thinking skills and grow as confident learners. Included is a brief overview of the exciting topics and big ideas we will explore this term.

We hope that you will enjoy being a part of the Junior School family as we collaborate to nurture happy, focused learners who are principled and reflective.

Literacy

Literacy within the Year 1 and 2 classroom programme. Literacy is fundamental to your child's educational journey, providing an effective and integrated approach to teaching reading, writing, and spelling. Our programme focuses on equipping children with foundational skills by teaching them how letters and sounds work together. We also emphasise developing vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and spelling rules, ensuring your child has the necessary tools to become a confident and capable reader and writer.

Our reading journey begins by introducing letter names and sounds. To reinforce this learning, these letters will be sent home on a ring for continued practice. As children gain confidence with specific letter names and vowel sounds, we will provide them with texts, which they will bring home. These texts are carefully selected to align with their current learning and are supported throughout the week during classroom instruction. Once your child has mastered these foundational spelling and reading concepts, we will introduce a variety of other books to further enhance their learning at school.



In our writing sessions, we empower children to confidently express their ideas by integrating explicit and sequential spelling rules. This approach helps them use words they already know and provides strategies for sounding out and recording new words, thereby strengthening their overall writing skills.

Mathematics

In Year 1, students focus on building a strong foundation in number understanding. They learn how to count, compare numbers, and explore how numbers relate to each other through early addition and subtraction strategies. This important work sets the groundwork for all future learning in mathematics.

In Year 2, students are continuing to build their number knowledge with a particular focus on addition and subtraction. Emphasis is placed on using practical activities and knowledge-based games. In strand Maths, Year 2 students will be looking at Measurement and Geometry.

Social Science

In Term 3, Year 0-1, students will focus on '**How the World Works**'. We will be investigating how living things grow and change in patterns and cycles. Students will explore seasons and the life cycles of plants and animals. They will have the opportunity to grow a plant and observe how it changes over time. We will use all forms of literacy to discuss and record our findings. Students will have the chance to express their understanding of these patterns and cycles artistically, utilising a range of mediums.

In Year 2, students will focus on '**Where We Are In Place and Time**'. They will be learning how stories and objects from the past help us see how things have changed and help us understand the world today. Students will identify artifacts from the past, gain an understanding of their purpose at the time and how they have been modified to meet our present needs. Children will use a range of presentations to demonstrate their understanding.

Te Reo - Year 2

Tamariki will continue to build their vocabulary through waiata, stories and hands-on activities and games. Aakonga will learn words for different people's roles and responsibilities throughout the school.



Christian Education

This term, students will be learning more about the impact a life of hope, faith and love can have when applied to their emerging spiritualities. This will be done through Biblical stories, discussion and role-play.

Digital Technology - Year 2

Year 2 students will explore how digital technologies act as systems that transform information using algorithms. Using Beebots,

they'll learn about input, output, and sequencing, understanding how communication tools have changed over time and shaped our world.

Physical Education

Fun to be FIT - Fitness and Cross Country (Week 1 - 5)

This unit is designed to empower students to achieve personal growth, regardless of their individual fitness abilities, working towards our school cross country and general fitness utilizing a range of different training methods.

Athletics (Week 6 - 9)

The aim of the unit is for students to participate in a variety of track and field events focusing on improving their performances through applying feedback.

Music and Performing Arts

Year 1

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice. They will continue to learn to sing a range of folk songs individually and with others using mainly the pitches so and mi. Students will also continue to recognise the difference between high and low pitch and be able to identify the difference between the beat and the rhythm of the music in a known song. Students will develop an understanding and the ability to recognise the rhythm values of ta, ti-ti (one or two sounds on a beat) and Za (rest). They will demonstrate this through participation in activities and classroom-based performances.

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 identify and notate ta, ti-ti, Za, and tika tika (crotchets, quavers, rests, and semiquavers) rhythms in songs. They will demonstrate this through participation in activities and classroom-based performances.

Year 2 Suzuki String Experience

For the first two terms of the year, 2BC was able to be the first class to experience Southwell's annual Suzuki String Programme. The children learnt the basics of either cello or violin and moved through what we call the 'Pre-Twinkle' stage. All of the children were able to hold the violins or cellos and bows correctly and also play on different strings on the instrument. This is a huge achievement, and it was so exciting to watch them engaged and motivated to play their instruments. We had a great time learning! As we begin Term 3, 2LS begin *their* Suzuki Violin/Cello journey. We are delighted with how the programme is going and look forward to more students having this meaningful musical experience.

Library

In the Library, after singing the Library Song, we introduce students to new books, talk about books they have read, and return and issue books. We try to link our story in with the Chapel theme and Southwell School Values. We also teach the children the basic routines and skills that will enable them to use the library independently.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us. Thank you again for your support.

Year 0-1 Teachers

Linda Tiffany
Jodie Carter
Lousie Filipo
Christine Jones

Year 2 Teachers

Bridget Coleman
Linda Simon