

Term 4, 2025

Years 0 - 2 Learning Overview

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back, and a special warm welcome to the new families who have joined the Junior School this term.

We are very pleased to welcome Sarhad and Nash into 1LF, Dylan and Selma into 1LT, along with Isabelle, Chelsea, and MacKenzie into JCJ. We trust you have a happy and productive Term 4 with us.



Learning Programmes

Our Term 4 learning programmes have been carefully designed to optimise 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 enables them to have a positive start to the day (between **8.00 am and 8.20 am** ideally). Students will be supervised from 8 am. If your child needs to be here earlier than 8 am please make sure they head to the library, just note that this will not be supervised.
- Encourage your child to return what they need to bring to class each day.
- Ensuring that all items of clothing are named. especially hats and shoes.

After a busy day, Year 1 children may be picked up from school any time after 2.30 pm. 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 3.20 pm. After-school care will still be available for those who wish to use it.

Year 1 Literacy Parent Information Morning. All parents are warmly invited to attend a Year 1 Literacy Information Morning on **Thursday, 30th October (Week 4)**, from **8:30 am to**

9:10am in the **Foyer of the Performing Arts Centre**. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Year 1 Literacy program, 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

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, in addition 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 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.

Year 2 PE days are on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

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

Learning in Year 1&2

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. Children develop vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and spelling rules, which ensure 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 are looking at numbers with a particular focus on addition and subtraction. Emphasis is placed on using practical activities and knowledge-based games. Other Mathematical learning this term will also include Measurement.

In Year 2, students continue to strengthen their number knowledge, with a particular focus on Multiplication and Division. Learning is supported through practical activities and engaging, knowledge-based games. Students are also exploring concepts in Measurement.

Inquiry

In Term 4, Year 0-2 Big Idea is **How We Express Ourselves**. Year 1 students will learn how people use creative expression to share meaning during celebrations.

They will participate in a performance of a traditional celebration, *Birth of Christ: The Nativity*. While individuals will have specific roles, they will also need to work together as a collective when performing.

Year 2 students will explore how diverse cultures use unique practices to celebrate and share their values and stories. They

will research and participate in a range of presentations to demonstrate their understanding, including an end-of-term performance of *The Nativity*. Together, **Years 1 and 2** will present *The Nativity* as a combined performance, highlighting both year levels' learning through creative expression and shared celebration.



Specialist Subjects

We are also lucky to have the support of our Specialist Teachers who teach Te Reo, Christian Education, Performing Arts and Physical Education in Year 2. In Year 1, we work hard to limit the number of changes in teachers for students. Year 1 students will still go to Physical Education and Music/Performing Arts with the Specialist teachers, and the 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

In Term 4 students will begin the focus toward Advent and the story of Christmas and the traditions and stories surrounding the Nativity of Jesus Christ.

Performing Arts 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, 8th December at 11.30 am in the Auditorium.



Performing Arts 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 8th December at 11.30 am in the Auditorium.



Physical Education

Athletics (Weeks 1 - 6) - The goal of this unit is for students to explore a variety of track and field events while learning to listen to and use ideas from others to improve their own performance.

Fundamental Movement Skills - Throwing and Catching (Weeks 1 - 6) - Students in this unit will get to play a variety of games with the goal of improving their hand-eye coordination when throwing and catching.

Pool Play (Weeks 7 - 9) - In this unit, students will build both water confidence and water safety skills by taking on various activities and challenges beyond the fundamentals of swimming strokes. This will encourage them to push themselves outside of their comfort zone.

Just let me play! (Weeks 7 - 9) - This unit is a chance for students to simply enjoy playing games, from old favourites to new challenges. They'll also develop sportsmanship, learning to appreciate the experience of both winning and losing while finding joy in their participation.

Library

In the Library, we introduce children to new books. We talk about books they have read, and teach children how to return and issue books. Children learn the basic routines and skills that will enable them to use the Library independently.

Year 1 and 2 students are allowed to borrow up to 2 books at a time.

We can not stress enough the importance of developing a daily Reading For Pleasure habit. You can assist with this by encouraging Reading for Pleasure every day - at this age, this would often look like you reading to your child, perhaps at bedtime.

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

Listen out for Summer Reading guidelines later in the term!



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, which is emailed to parents every Friday to keep them 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)
Jodie Carter
Louise Filipo
Christine Jones
Bridget Coleman
Linda Simon