

A warm welcome to our Middle Room whanau in this first term of 2022!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed your special family time, being able to get out and about a bit more than usual.

How wonderful to see old faces, familiar faces and new ones back on the first day. I must say, one of the best things about working in a small school is that we all know each other by name and get a lot of opportunity to spend time with all our amazing kids which makes the transition to any class very easy.

During the first few days, we have been focussing on our routines, our expectations and our goals. We went over the Treaty of Waitangi and what it means, and also how we could use this great idea to introduce a class treaty to ensure we all have a voice in our expectations of how our class should be managed, and what we think appropriate expectations and behaviour in our class would look like.

Our Inquiry during the first term will be student led and, as we looked at the world map during our discussion of the Treaty of Waitangi, our tamariki have shown great interest in the map of the world, the difference between continents and countries, and travelling back in the days. This would be a great starting point for our Inquiry and who knows where this incredible road to discovery will lead us? I, for one, am very excited for the class to use their student voice to question as much as possible and lead me with their amazing inquiring minds.

I am also focussing on a positive mindset and making sure that all our tamariki are not feeling overwhelmed, teaching them that your brain is a muscle and it needs exercise to get stronger, that we learn through our mistakes, and just overall growth mindset values which will set them up for life.

In Maths, we will be looking at Measurement which will slot in nicely with our Inquiry topic (according to my different math groups needs). The children will, according to their goals, help lead me in what I will teach them. These goals will change during the term as they are achieved.

In Writing and Reading, the children will indicate what they would like to achieve within their respective groups needs, and we will focus on this to make sure they feel a greater sense of achievement.

I am looking forward to a fantastic first term and a year filled with many positive learning experiences.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on ronel@sfs.school.nz

Kind regards,
Ronel Johansson