Paremata School

Attitude determines Altitude   Whakapono kia koe

What is tonight all about?

- **Tonight is an opportunity for our school community to get to know the teachers.**

- **I will be giving an overview of our school values and curriculum and talking about the new school wide implementation of the school-parent communication app Seesaw For Schools.**

- **We will be discussing children sending their work out on Seesaw, how to give specific feedback, the term 1 goal setting and ongoing school communication.**

- **Following this there will be time to catch up and chat with staff.**

2019 School Values

- **Attitude Determines Altitude - Whakapono kia koe**
- **Respect (Respect for People, Respect for Property, Respect for Safety)**
- **Empathy**
- **Identity**
- **Resilience**
- **Global Awareness**
- **Community**
- **Active Learning**

Our School Curriculum in 2019…….

Our school curriculum uses a 'Deep Learning' lens in all that we do.

Deep Learning involves blending the classroom environment, with a wide range of teaching strategies, digital technologies and all the learning partnerships we can find to support student progress and learning. The school's interaction with the wider community- local, national and global are very important learning partnerships in children's learning.

Deep Learning also has 6 competencies Collaboration,Creativity, Critical Thinking, Citizenship, Character and Community which the children work on, developing their skills during the year.

Student choice and decision making in what they study and how they show their learning, plays a very large role in Deep Learning.

Deep Learning occurs when children can take what they have learnt in class programmes and apply it to other contexts.

Why does the school take this approach?

- Since the demise of the one achievement level fits all approach of National Standards we have returned to making our NZ school curriculum the focus.
- Children learn differently from each other and at different rates.
- They have different skills, strengths and weaknesses therefore we allow them to make progress through the four levels in the NZ curriculum without being marked against a set of standards.
- Using our Deep Learning approach allows children to learn in a style that suits them and they feel comfortable with.
- They get choice on what and how they learn and can show their learning through a wide range of different contexts.
- Children's programmes of work will be set and extended to a level that is challenging yet achievable for them right across the curriculum. This takes the anxiety out of learning.
- We still have expected levels of progress in Reading, Writing and Maths and parents will be alerted if children are showing signs that they are struggling acquiring and retaining skills and knowledge.

Learning Partnerships and Seesaw for Schools

To increase our communication and learning partnership with whānau we have implemented a new communication app school wide called 'Seesaw for Schools'.

Seesaw allows the children to share their work with their parents/whānau during the school day. Teachers oversee and approve which work gets shared and parents who have set up the Seesaw app on their devices will get a notification.

As we all know as adults, positive feedback is a great way of increasing self esteem and maintaining motivation and children are no different. We are finding Seesaw is increasing student engagement and allows parents to regularly keep up to date with what is happening in class and feedback to their children.

What sort of feedback would we like parents to give on Seesaw?

To make the most of the opportunity when responding to your child's work on Seesaw we would like parents to be quite **specific** with their feedback using;

1. a positive compliment about your child's piece of work saying what you like about it.

   e.g. **"What a great effort you have made, I can see you have worked very hard on finishing your maths tasks"**

2. a constructive comment to help enhance the quality or skill base of the work.

   e.g. **"Keep working on developing your multiplication skills**
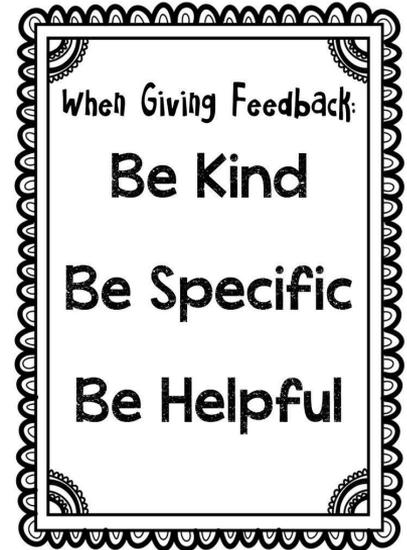
   I know you can do it."

More examples of specific feedback for junior students.

e.g. "I like the way you mixed red and blue paint

to make purple bands across the yellow.

"I notice you've used colourful squiggly lines.

They really look like a caterpillar moving.".

When Giving Feedback:

Be Kind

Be Specific

Be Helpful

Term 1 Goal Setting

- **In the coming weeks the children will be setting their learning goals and sharing these goals via Seesaw.**
- **Here are some examples of student's personalised goals in the senior school**

My Maths Goals

1. **To improve on my fractions. I will achieve this by doing basic facts on fractions everyday at home by downloading them from the internet**
2. **To improve on my symmetry not just doing it to get over and done with. I will achieve this by working on this as much as I can at school when we do math.**
3. **To improve on my long division. I will achieve this by doing more of it on mathletics.**

Term 1 Student Goal setting feedback

- On Seesaw you will get the opportunity to comment on your child's goals and offer some feedback and guidance.
- If you have any concerns you can then make a time that fits in with your busy schedule to meet with your child's teacher to discuss the goals.
- In depth parent, teacher child conferences will be held as normal in Term Three following the Term Two mid-year reports but of course you can meet with us at any other time during the year - just organise a date and time with your child's teacher.

- We look forward to working with you all this year.