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Friday 12 February

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora, a warm welcome to Room 1 and the beginning of your child's learning journey at Winton School. I am looking forward to getting to know you all and working with you and your child this year. We are learning the routines of being at school, it is great to see the children unpacking their bags and getting ready for the day by themselves.

The children will need to have a named water bottle at school each day, please. It is also important that the children all have a school sun hat to wear while playing outside during terms 1 and 4. As morning tea is at 11.00 each day we have a 'fruit break' at 10.00, please remember to pop a piece of fruit or veg into your child's lunchbox each day as a healthy snack

The children will bring home a book to share with you each night, it may be a book they have read with me, or one they have chosen. Having a chat about the story and discussing what is happening in the pictures is just as beneficial as reading the story! Please sign the reading diary after reading and return it to school each day in the 'book bag'. You will also find an alphabet sheet in their book bags, please help them to say the sound and picture rather than the letter name. We will visit the school library on Monday afternoons. Your child will bring a library book home to share together. Please return the book by the end of the week.

Our topics for this term are:

- *Athletics, Junior Athletics will be held in week 4 on Wednesday 3 March.*
- *Our Inquiry Focus is Community - belonging to a group: family/whanu, class, friendships, school*
- *PMP motor skills programme - an important part of our programme. This programme focuses on memory, eye tracking, gross motor skills, balance and coordination which all help to build a foundation for learning in other curriculum areas.*

A 'Meet the Teacher' evening is being held on Wednesday the 24 of February at 6.00pm. I look forward to seeing you all there and explaining in more depth the happenings in Room 1 and our junior team. You are always welcome to pop in for a chat and to have a look at what we have been up to. I know many of you are busy and working, so alternatively you can message me on seesaw or email jo@winton.school.nz

Nga mihi

Jo Gilliland

