



TERM 1, 2017

Grade 1/2 Newsletter

PARENT INFORMATION

The Grade 1/2 teachers, Ms. Cutri and Mr. Logan are looking forward to an exciting first term! Classroom doors are open at 8.50am. Children may start to come in and take out their take home readers ready for the morning session. **Please remember that our Early Years Literacy Program begins at 9.00am and children are expected to begin work at 9.00am.**

Absentees/late arrivals

A note or phone call explaining your child's absence is required. Late arrivals can disturb the entire grade as the teacher must stop and explain the learning activity to the individual student. Children, who are late, often miss the most important part of the lesson.

Homework

Children are expected to read their 'Take-Home' reader daily. These books should be at an appropriate reading level for the child. We want the children to be able to read the books without a lot of difficulty, but also have books that contain a few words that challenge them. **Please listen to your child read then sign their reader log book. Also, students should be practising to read and spell the M200W each night.**

As your child reads, discuss the story with them. Perhaps ask questions such as: "Who is the main character of the story?" "What happened at the beginning of the story?" "What do you think will happen now?" It is also beneficial to the child's reading progress if they are encouraged to read other books from the library or from home.

Children will also be required to complete weekly homework in their homework books, which are to be handed in to the classroom teacher each Friday. Teachers will hand the homework books back to the students on Monday, giving children the week to complete the learning activities. Teachers will appreciate parents' help in ensuring that children complete homework tasks by the due date set by the teacher. If homework cannot be completed then a note explaining the reason is greatly appreciated.

Learning Program

Reading:

We have been asking students to choose a 'just right' book and tell us if the book they are reading is a fiction or non-fiction book.

Focus Areas in Reading in Term 1 are: Reading Accurately by;

- use beginning and ending sounds
- use the pictures
- chunk letters and sounds
- skip the word and then come back
- cross check, does it sound right and make sense?

Comprehension strategies such as;

- **Prior knowledge** - using what you already know to help understand something new.
- **Predicting** - guessing what will happen next in a story.

Writing:

The style of writing we will focus on in Term 1 is recount writing. Students should:

- tell you when, who, where, what and why, when writing about an event they have experienced.
- write a sentence, which makes sense, using capital letters and full stops.

Mathematics:

Focus areas in maths for Term 1 are:

Place Value, Length, Addition, Subtraction, Chance, 2D, 3D shapes, and Flip, Slide and Turn of 2D shapes.

Math concepts and processes that will be continually taught are:

- Oral counting by 2's, 3's, 5's, 10's to 100 and beyond, counting from various starting points, continuing written patterns forwards and backwards,
- Using mental strategies such as nearest 10, doubles/near doubles and ten facts
- Numbers that come before and after numbers to 999.
- Making, naming and recording numbers of 2 and 3 digits.
- Expanding numbers, using place value i.e. the value given to digits in a number, for example $24 = 2 \text{ tens and } 4 \text{ ones}$. $43 \text{ equal } 4 \text{ tens and } 3 \text{ ones}$ or $24 = 20 + 4$.

Playground Equipment

Children are often seen playing on the junior school playground equipment before and after school. **Playing on the equipment is not permitted at these times** and parents are asked to help teachers to enforce this safety rule.

Assemblies

Whole school assemblies are held every second Friday afternoon and begin at 2.45pm. All parents, grandparents and carers are welcome to attend.

Hats

In Terms 1 and 4, children must wear their hats outside every day – No hat, no play. **Remember to write their name clearly on their hats and also jumpers.** Feel free to use our permanent markers.

Tissue Boxes

We ask that parents supply their child with a **tissue box** that can be used by all the children in their classroom. We also remind parents to ensure their child has a **library bag** (they may use a sturdy plastic bag), and an **art smock**.

Mr Logan's Specialist Timetable-

Physical Education: Thursday



Performing Arts : Thursday



Library: Monday



Art- Tuesday



Computers- Tuesday & Wednesday



Ms Cutri's Specialist Timetable-

Physical Education: Thursday



Performing Arts : Thursday



Library: Wednesday



Art- Tuesday



Computers- Monday & Friday

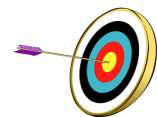


Integrated Studies Topic

Term 1 – 'Healthy Mind, Healthy Body!'

This term students will extend their vocabulary to recognise and describe different emotions they can experience and with whom it is appropriate to share these emotions with.

Students will also identify personal strengths and describe how these strengths are useful in school or life. Children will be setting goals to try and improve things that they are not too good at, so they can be aware of their of how they learn and what steps they need to do in order to be successful!



We look forward to meeting all parents and hope that you will be able to stay connected with our classrooms via our SeeSaw app. Parents will be informed about this program at our 'Getting to know you' interviews on 22nd of February.

Kind regards,
Ms. Melina Cutri & Mr. Brenton Logan