

Welcome to Term 2 2019. What a wonderful term 1, there is so much learning and energy that is now being carried over for term 2. We are 'The Rockstars' and we are continuing to rock our learning this year.

English:

We are going to continue our focus on building writing stamina through quick writes and working our way through the 6 + 1 writing traits. These are:

1. **Ideas** – the main message.
2. **Organisation** – the internal structure of the piece.
3. **Voice** – the personal tone and flavour of the author's message.
4. **Word Choice** – the vocabulary a write chooses to convey meaning
5. **Sentence Fluency** – the rhythm and flow of the language
6. **Conventions** – the mechanical correctness like punctuation.
- 7 **Presentation** – how the writing looks on the page.

In **writing** we will be exploring how to create informative texts such as reports and procedures. The writing process will be extensively utilised as students work through drafting, revising and editing to eventually publish a piece of writing. Each student has a writing kit where they will 'have a go' with tricky spelling, collate all their work samples, and keep their feedback from teacher conferencing.

In **reading**, we will work on our CAFÉ strategies (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary). We will explore a range of texts to support our work in writing and develop our understanding of the relationship between reading and writing. Students will continue to build their spelling and grammar through focused skill building.

Students will be continued to be grouped across the 4 classes for 'letters and sounds' where we will work on our sound and letter correspondence, learn sight words and practice our writing and articulation of sounds.

Mathematics:

Students will participate in daily mathematics learning and activities in...

Number – understanding number facts and skip counting by 1, 2, 5 and 10, both forwards and backwards and from 0 as well as other starting points; looking at patterns with numbers and missing numbers in sequences

Addition and Subtraction - the students will explore how to solve various addition and subtraction problems using a range of strategies.

Place value and partitioning – understanding three-digit numbers are comprised of units/ones, tens and hundreds.

Location – learning and understanding different terms used with direction and location. For example, left, right, forwards, north, south etc.

Mass – the students will play with sand and water as they discover different ways to weigh things.

Capacity – the students will explore how much containers hold. Exploring how different shape containers can hold the same or different amounts.

"Our place in space" is our geography-based unit this term that explores into various features of places, how those features change and how we are connected to a specific place. This begins at the home level, and includes exploration of our school, suburb, city, state, country and planet, and how these places have changed over time. We will further explore how to care for specific places, the factors that influence our connection to places, and the differences between natural, managed and constructed parts of our environment.

Technologies

This term we will be exploring our digital footprint, understanding components of digital technologies and recognising and using online environments such as Google Classroom. Students will also be practising their mouse and keyboard skills and learning some of the apps in the Google Suite. They will also explore data and begin to understand online safety.

Keeping active

Our classrooms will have regular movement breaks, and on Fridays we will be practising our gross motor skills in mixed groups with a focus on skipping, hopping, jumping, balance and agility. PE lessons will continue with Daniel and our new PE teacher, Syed, on a Tuesday afternoon.

SEL

The focus for Social and Emotional Learning this term is on identifying and naming different emotions. Through role play and class discussion children will learn different strategies to cope with challenges and engage in self-management and self-regulation strategies.

Japanese with Sharee

In Term 2, Year 1/2 will be learning to respond to and give simple classroom instructions in Japanese (for example, *tatte たって* to stand up, *suwatte すわって* to sit down). Our main focus will be working through a unit called *Kaban no naka かばんのなか* (in my schoolbag). Children will learn the names of different stationery items found in a classroom and explore aspects of going to school in Japan, and how this may be similar and different to going to school in Australia. We will explore patterns in words and phrases to help us recognise and structure simple descriptions and phrases.

The Arts with Amanda

This term in the Arts, the students will be studying dance. They will explore the elements of dance through improvisation and learning set dance sequences. They will also use the elements of dance to create and perform their own dance sequences that represent ideas to an audience.

Things to Remember:

Munch and Crunch – in the morning session children are permitted a short time to have a fresh fruit or vegetable or cheese snack to fuel their brain for more learning. Please do not send in foods that require a spoon to eat. Foods need to be something that can be held in one hand while the child is still eating. Some examples are apples, banana, carrots, celery, cheese sticks or squares.

Library days: All classes have library day on Monday.

Home reading:

Children will be encouraged to change their home readers daily. This ideally will be done in their large mesh zipper folders. Books are located in tubs at the end of the corridor. We encourage parents to listen to their children reading for at least 10 minutes each night. Don't forget to read to your children too. Read the cereal box, the street signs, letters from friends and relatives. There is lots of research showing the intimate connection between being read to and vocabulary development.

Please feel free to make an appointment with us should you have any concerns our questions relating to your child. We look forward to working with you and having a great year. Please note that Sim Riddle works Mon – Thurs and executive Melissa Mongan will be on class every Friday. Melissa Orton, Mike Smith and Tania Blak are here all week. We look forward to meeting with you at the 'meet the teacher' event next Tuesday.

Happy learning

Year 1/2 Team

Sim Riddle, Melissa Orton, Michael Smith, Tania Blak and executive Melissa Mongan