



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education  
and Child Development

# Room 1 Newsletter

## Term 2 2017



### Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a nice break and found some time to relax and enjoy!

I am very happy to say that the students in Room 1 had some great success last term! Everyone has settled into our class routines, have begun to develop friendships and have achieved some fantastic learning. I am looking forward to the exciting term ahead!

### Important Messages

#### Attendance

It is very important that your child is on time each day to school, as some of our most important routines and literacy occurs first thing in the morning. If you are late please ensure that your child has a late pass which is issued by the front office staff. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if the school has not been notified *prior to 10:00am*.

#### Aboriginal Virtual Reality Incursion

On Tuesday of Week 5, we will be participating in an incursion where students will be able to explore indigenous culture through virtual reality technologies. More information regarding this event will be sent home separately.

#### School Photos

We will have school photos taken on Thursday 18th of May. If you choose to purchase a copy of your child's photo, packages range from \$26 - \$47. Please send your child in proper school uniform on the day along with the correct money inside the envelope if you have not ordered online.

#### Homework

To ensure that students are reinforcing ideas learnt during class time, students in the Early Years classes are required to practise sight words and read to a parent or caregiver each night for 10 minutes. Knowing these words instantaneously will greatly help students' fluency in reading. Please practise sight words with your child regularly as part of your nightly homework routine. Remember to practise the words in a jumbled order so that your child is learning the word itself, not just remembering the words by rote order. These sight words will be checked once per week and I will highlight each word when your child can read it without hesitation.

Students will swap over levelled readers on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This encourages them to develop their fluency. I will continue to use Running Records to test your child's reading and as they develop their comprehension, accuracy and fluency they will progress to the next reading level. You will be informed when they move up a level.

This term your children will receive a homework chart, to help practise the literacy skills covered in class. More information regarding this is featured on the following page.

### What's on this term

**THIS TERM ASSEMBLIES  
WILL BE HELD ON  
FRIDAY WEEK 3  
THURSDAY 4, 6, 8, 10  
At 9:00am in the Hall**

**Thursday 18th May  
School Photos**

**Friday 19th May  
Colour Fun Run**

**Tuesday 30th May  
No Pen Morning**

**Tuesday 30th May  
Aboriginal Virtual Reality  
Incursion**

**Monday 12th June  
Public Holiday**

**Tuesday 13th June  
PUPIL FREE DAY**

**Wednesday 5th July  
Reports Go Home**

**Friday 7th July  
Last day of term 2  
Casual Day with  
Gold Coin Donation  
Early dismissal 2:00pm**



## Literacy

We will be continuing our work with the *Jolly Phonics* program throughout this term. The students in Rooms 1, 2, 4 and 5 were taught all of the sounds last term and will all be learning together this term. To continue this learning all students from the 4 classes will be working alongside each other in groups with similar ability and learning styles. Each child has undergone assessments to provide us with information to place your child in the group that best suits their individual needs, knowledge and understanding. There will now be 4 Jolly Phonics groups, so your child may be taught by Miss P, Mrs Tidswell, Mrs Hector or myself during these lessons each day.



We believe that this approach will ensure that each child continues to learn at a fast rate. We are very excited about this program and can't wait to watch the students' learning growth.

We will also continue to develop our writing skills through using our daily 'Play Plans', interactive writing and reflections.

We will begin grouped guided reading this term, which focuses on developing reading strategies and comprehension skills. The class will be separated into 5 groups. One group will read with me, while the other groups will work independently at their literacy station. These groups allow me to use some one on one time to assess and support students to take the next step in developing their reading skills.



As mentioned last term your child will be expected to read every night with you or an older sibling.

- Encourage your child to have a go at guessing a word.
- Get your child to look for clues such as a picture.
- Allow your children to pick up their own mistakes.
- Read the sentence and get your child to mimic you.

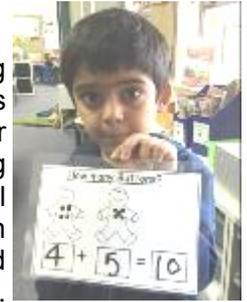
This term your children will take home a weekly homework chart which will help your child to build on the skills we will be working on in class. The first part requires your child to use the picture cue to sound out a three sound word, then think of a rhyming word. The second section focuses on Tricky Words which are frequently encountered in reading but are not decodable. Your child will practise reading, tracing, writing and then finding these words in a book. Feel free to pace the homework out over the week as best suits your

family commitments.

**Library borrowing day is Friday**

## Numeracy

This term we will be learning about patterns as well as continuing to develop our number knowledge and skills using numbers from 0 - 20. This will include understanding patterns in numbers, colours, shapes and how we use patterns in daily life.



They will also be working towards recognising and recording number names, numerals, matching quantities, subitising (recognising a numeral instantly), counting on and backwards, using number lines, as well as addition and representing these ideas on paper. Students will also continue learning various strategies to improve their mental speed and accuracy when working with numbers, such as 'doubles' and 'rainbow facts'.

## Science

During Science this term we will be investigating the sky, different weather patterns and how they effect us and other living things. Students are encouraged to regularly check the temperature in order to contribute to the class weather chart, therefore some adult support may be helpful, particularly if accessing the internet. Students will explore this topic through observations, hands-on activities, comparisons, group discussions and investigations.



## History/Geography

In Geography lessons, we will focus on 'Special Places'. We will discuss places that are 'special' to each child and 'Special Places' in our community, including what makes a place special to people.

## Technology (STEM)

Technologies will continue to be integrated throughout Science, Maths and IT lessons. This allows the students to utilise their problem solving and design skills in a variety ways. Our class will have the opportunity to develop their ICT skills through using iPads and BeeBots, where they will continue to develop their skills in manipulating various educational apps and coding skills.



## Music / Drama

This term the class will focus on tempo and dynamics. They will understand that these change within musical pieces. They will identify and play a change in tempo and dynamics within songs and within classical music. They will also continue to sing various new songs and will revise some old favourites! The class will also focus on group and partnership dancing.

**Ms Britz**

**Specialist Music/Drama Teacher**

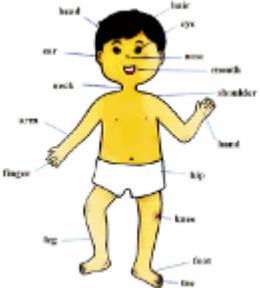
## Health and PE

The **Physical Education** program at Parafield R-7 School provides students the opportunity to participate in a wide range of physical activities through the learning of sporting skills. This term we will continue to develop and strengthen students' fundamental motor skills through taking part in sporting activities and games that look at improving coordination and strengthening fine and gross motor skills, while learning new sporting activities. Many games will allow students to work cooperatively with others and promote both individual growth and positive social skills.

The P.E. program will allow sufficient time in each unit to provide opportunities for students to acquire an understanding of body control and manipulation to be able to demonstrate and show progression in ball handling skills. Students will practice individually and work with others to refine their range of manipulative ball skills including throwing, catching, bouncing, shooting, dribbling and marking to assist them to confidently participate in basketball related games, as well as modified Touch Football games.

Learning to play team games is essential for students to become aware of the spatial requirements needed for safe play, to learn to self regulate their emotions and to learn to conduct themselves safely.

During Term 2, the **Health Education** curriculum will cover the areas of 'Our Body', 'Emotions/Feelings' and 'Friendship' Students will learn about the five senses, how to look after their body and use good hygiene and the importance of being active and taking part in physical activities to keep their body healthy. It is important for students to



discuss and learn about differences in body shapes, size, strength and abilities in order to accept that it is 'normal' to be different.

Students will also be learning 'Social & emotional' skills by looking at different facial expressions and body languages and understanding how we can read other peoples' facial and body expressions to get a sense of how they are feeling. This encourages students to seek out healthy, reciprocal

friendships and supports discussions on the topic of 'emotions/feelings'.

**Stephanie Ryan**

**P.E. & Health Specialist Teacher**

## Sharing Topics

Week 1 – Holiday recount

Week 2 – Free choice

Week 3 – What's your favourite season

Week 4 – Favourite thing to do in nature

Week 5 – Free choice

Week 6 – Bring something with a pattern

Week 7 – Something you have built

Week 8 – Something you can make from paper

Week 9 – Free choice

Week 10 – What you want to do in the holidays

## Reminders and important notices

- It is important that all students bring a drink bottle of water to school each day.
- Library borrowing day is **Friday**. Students will be given a library bag to keep their library books in. It is important that books are returned within the 2 week loan period to avoid overdue notices and payments. Please also remember that students are not allowed to borrow new readers if they have an overdue library book.
- Our PAL (Partners in Learning) class is Ms Karapas's year 7 class. They will be listening to students read and also participating in various PAL activities.
- Hats are compulsory all year. If your child does not have a hat they will have to sit in the shade during break times. A new hat can be purchased for \$5.50 from the Front Office.
- Please ensure all clothes and belongings are clearly labelled.

I am looking forward to another exciting term ahead!

Kind Regards,

**Allira Willington**

# Learning in the Nature Garden



# STEM

Building Easter Bunny baskets, a house for the Three Little Pigs and coding with BeeBots!

