



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education  
and Child Development

# Room 1 Newsletter

## Term 3 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

I am very happy to see that most students are now able to organise themselves and complete routines independently each morning, so from now on the classroom will be a **'kiss and drop' zone**. We are asking that parents are out of the classroom **by 8:40am** so we are able to begin our valuable learning time. I understand that you may need to speak to me at times and I'm more than happy to make an appointment before or after school or you may email me if you would like to discuss your child's progress or any concerns you may have.

### 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*.

### 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 different orders so that your child is learning the word itself, not just remembering the words by rote order. These sight words will be checked at the **beginning and end of each term**, as stated in the school literacy agreement, 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 child will continue to take home a weekly homework schedule which will support them in their literacy learning. The homework schedule focuses on the skills of rhyming and sounding words out, as well as recognising and writing the Tricky Word lists.

Allira Willington

### What's on this term

#### Diary dates

**Assemblies this term will be held on Thursdays in Weeks 2, 5, 6, 8, and 10 At 9:00am in the Hall**

**Tuesday 8th August  
Governing Council Meeting at 6:30pm**

**Tuesday 15th to  
Friday 18th August  
Early Years Swimming**

**Monday 21st August to Friday  
25th August  
Book Week**

**Thursday 24th August  
Book Week Assembly**

**FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER  
SCHOOL CLOSURE**

**MONDAY 4th SEPTEMBER  
PUPIL FREE DAY**

**Monday 11th September to  
Friday 15th September  
Optional Interviews**

**Tuesday 12th September  
Governing Council Meeting at 6:30pm**

**Friday 30th September  
Last day of term 3  
Casual day  
with gold coin donation  
Early dismissal at 2:00pm**

## Literacy

We will be continuing our work with the *Jolly Phonics* program throughout this term. To continue this learning all students 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 are 6 Jolly Phonics groups, so your child may be taught by Miss P, Tess, Mrs Tidswell, Mrs Hector, Mrs Whelan or myself during these lessons.

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', writing prompts, interactive writing and reflections.

We will also continue grouped guided reading this term, which focuses on developing reading strategies and comprehension skills. The class will be separated into 4 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.
- ask your child to look for clues such as a picture.
- allow your child to pick up their own mistakes.
- read the sentence so your child can mimic you.

**Library borrowing day is Friday**

## Numeracy

This term we will be learning about measurement as well as continuing to develop our number knowledge and skills using numbers from 0 - 20. This will include understanding why and how we use measurement 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 exploring the biological science component of the curriculum which investigates what living things need to survive, the differences between 'needs' and 'wants' as well as differences between human, animal and plant survival needs. In Room 1 we are fortunate to have the school 'Nature Garden' right outside our door, which will hopefully lead to many valuable science learning opportunities this year!

## History/Geography

During our Geography lessons this term, 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 them special to people.

## Design and Technology

This term Design and Technology will be integrated throughout Science, Maths and Computing lessons. This allows the students to utilize their problem solving and design skills in a variety of ways. Students will participate in weekly computing lessons where they will be able to access a laptop computer to support them in developing their basic computing skills using new and familiar programs.

## Music / Drama

This term the class will learn how to read basic music notation which will enable them to successfully play the chime bars and bells. They will rehearse and perfect the basic melodies and tunes they are taught to play. They will learn new songs to perform using their instruments. The students will also learn this year's *Music Count Us In* song and will partake in varying activities based on and around this song.

**Ms Britz**

**Specialist Music/Drama Teacher**

## Health and PE

Term 3 Health lessons will cover some parts of the *Keeping Safe-Child Protection Curriculum* particularly 'Trust and Networks', 'Practising Protective Strategies' and Being Safe- Early Years Drug Education. During the term, the topics students will learn about are: basic first aid, safety around medicines, fire & water safety and keeping safe. These topics will ensure students understand rules for, and ways of keeping safe and the importance of keeping safe in all environments.

Term 3's P.E. program will have students continue to work on their motor skill development, explore the skills for working effectively in groups and problem solving and decision making. They will learn and practise their ball handling skills (catching, passing, court positioning and shooting goals) to assist in playing modified netball games. Students will also be exploring and improving their body movements, body manipulation, coordination and body strength as well as, their cooperation and social skills through taking part in an introductory course in dance and gymnastics lessons.

**Mrs Ryan**

**Specialist Health/PE Teacher**

## Swimming Reminder

Just a reminder that swimming is in Week 4. It is vital that the medical form is also filled out and if any medication is required it must be named and given to the class teacher with instructions. If your child has asthma they will need to have an 'Asthma Action Plan' which needs to be documented in the front office. Unfortunately this year there is no room on the bus for parent helpers. You may come and watch your child but there may be a swimming centre entry fee.