



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 2 Newsletter

Term 2 2017



Dear Families,

A warm welcome back this term after a very busy and successful Term 1. I am very proud and impressed with the students' achievements last term. The students worked well together both in the classroom and yard. Each individual student has worked hard to adopt a growth mindset and the class motto across all subject areas:

'Always have a go.'

I would like to thank the parents who have spent time reading with their children, practising sight words at home and also helping with their child's Sound Book. It will be fantastic to see all parents continuing this involvement with their children's learning throughout Term 2. It is crucial to support your child's schooling by completing their homework with them and modelling good practices at home.

***Read, Read, Read
The more you read, the more you know
The more you read, the more you grow
So read, read, read***

Routine and Communication

This term all routines and methods of communication will remain similar as in Term 1. This means your child will take home their diary, a reader, plastic folder and sight words each night. They may now keep their sound book at home and can use it to practise sounds, write words or attempt to write sentences. In the morning the children will be able to put their own chair out and choose a spot to sit for the day. This promotes different interactions with different children each day. The children will be able to change their books on Monday, Wednesday and Friday ONLY. Please continue to read with your child every night and practise their sight words.

Absence

Just a reminder if your child is away, could you please write a note in their diary, contact the school by phone or myself by email. A brief explanation such as illness or family would be much appreciated. A text message will be sent to you on the day if you have not notified the school by 10:00am.

I'm looking forward to having yet another successful and exciting term with your children.

Alana Papahristos

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

Jolly Phonics

Last term we were able to learn 42 of the phonics sounds with the support of the Jolly Phonics program. This term the children are split amongst a number of junior primary classes depending on their individual needs. Some children will be revisiting their phonic sounds again while other students who know all their sounds will be looking at alternative sounds. Alternative sounds sound the same but have different spellings such as: 'ai', which can also be shown 'ay' as in day, and 'a-e' as in snake.

Grammar

We will continue learning about grammar throughout the term, focusing on nouns, fullstops and capital letters. This will be supported by the implementation of *Jolly Grammar*, which complements with *Jolly Phonics*.

Guided Reading

The students will begin guided reading which will be conducted in small groups. The groups will be organised according to their reading ability and students will be exposed to a variety of texts and activities.

Reading

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.

If you are able to help listen to children read in the mornings please come and see me, so that we can follow the necessary steps which are requirements from DECD.

Spelling homework

This term I will be sending home a blending/spelling activity once a week for your child to complete if you would like. This will be glued into their spelling books. I understand some parents want to concentrate on their child's reading and sight words, so its up to you if you would like to extend your child with this extra spelling homework.

Next term, the children will start having spelling words to take home every week.

Sight words

In your child's folder you will find a little booklet full of common words called 'sight words'. I ask

that you read 3 words every night and give the word a tick once your child has said it. I will test your children twice a term and highlight any words that they are able to say 5 times without hesitation.

Handwriting

In Learning Community 2 we use a play-based approach when practising handwriting. Different stations are set up around the room and the children rotate where they learn to form particular letters and numerals correctly. These activities also cater for their fine motor development. Handwriting lessons will continue this term to further develop letter formation, posture and pencil grip skills. Please encourage your child to form the letters correctly. If you are unsure of letter formation please see me and I can give you a sheet.

Writing

Last term we completed many different writing tasks. Many children started off by drawing but most are now attempting to write first sounds, words or short phrases to explain their pictures. This term we will be using prompt cards to encourage the children to write about different things. They will get to choose a card and write about something to do with the picture on their cards. We will also have structured writing lessons where the children will be learning about the language used in recounts. Towards the end of the term the children will be exposed to many different narratives and we will be learning about the structure of narrative story writing.

Numeracy

Number and place value

This term we will continue to focus on strategies and number work twice a week. We will continue learning how to count forwards and backwards from 1-20, double numbers and learning to add small quantities using concrete materials and 2 dice faces. We will also be looking at counting on strategies and learning about rainbow facts.

Measurement

This term we will be learning about measurement. We will be using direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer, heavier, or holds more, as well as using reasoning in everyday language. We will also be doing problem solving once a week and numeracy rotation activities with Room 1 focusing on number and number strategies.

STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths

This term we will be integrating Science with the two curriculum areas Numeracy and Technology. We will be looking at weather patterns. We will also be focusing on how daily and seasonal



changes in our environment affect everyday life. The children will be designing, critiquing and making a device that can measure weather.

Music and Drama with Georgia Yates

This term in music, students will continue to focus on beat through dancing, singing, movement activities and playing un-tuned percussion instruments and will be introduced to some rhythmic elements. They will also be looking at the musical opposites of fast, slow, loud, soft, long, short and high and low.

In drama, students will add to their knowledge of character by changing their facial expressions and continuing to develop their voices.

Physical Education and Health with Stephanie Ryan.

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.

Your child's PE lesson is on Fridays so please ensure they are wearing appropriate clothing and footwear on this day.

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 learn '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'.



Other information

- ◆ If you have any old children's clothes or dress ups that you are no longer using at home, we would love them in our classroom!
- ◆ Students are now required to wear their hats all year long. Please make sure they have a warm, school jumper or jacket, ready for the colder months.
- ◆ Please remember to take or send your child to the front office if they are late to sign in before coming to class.
- ◆ Please bring in any bottles or cans as we have a recycling bin here that we love to fill up. The money then goes towards something for the children.

News Presentation 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 shorter than you

Week 7 – What was your favourite thing at the zoo

Week 8 – Talk about something that is heavier than you.

Week 9 – Free choice

Week 10 – What you want to do in the holidays

