



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 2 Newsletter

Term 3 2017



Dear Families

A warm welcome back this term after a very successful Term 2. Firstly I would like to thank all the parents for your support during Terms 1 and 2. It has been a pleasure getting to know you and your children. I would also like to congratulate all the children on their learning so far; you should be extremely proud of them.

Thank you to all the parents who are helping their children to practise their sight words and reading at home. The children are beginning to move forward and I'm expecting to see more progression this term. It will be fantastic to see all parents continuing this involvement with their children's learning throughout Term 3. As I have mentioned before, these extra routines at home each night can make the world of difference in your child's success. It is crucial to support your child's schooling through completing their homework with them and modelling good practices at home.

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.

Please note as previously mentioned I will only be testing your child's sight words and reading levels **twice a term** as stated in the school's Literacy Agreement. The testing that we do is a long process and as much as I would like to test them more frequently this is unrealistic in a classroom setting with the amount of curriculum content we need to get through. Thank you for your support, it is appreciated.

Please make sure your child is well rugged up in the Winter months. As we all know it can be very cold during Term 3 and these measures will also hopefully keep some of those colds and viruses away. Please also ensure that all clothing is named. This will be particularly important later in the term during Early Years swimming week. You should have received swimming notices and medical forms already. These notes are vital as without the completion of these notes your child will be unable to attend swimming.

I am looking forward to working with your children and having another successful and rewarding term.

Alana Papahristos

What's on this term

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

Curriculum

English

As mentioned earlier, the children are all progressing well with their reading and sight words. During this term the students tend to show a great improvement in their reading and fluency. Reading needs to be practised every night at home. Children who are reading levels 1-8 are changing their readers every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning before 8:50am. This is so the students will purposely read books more than once. Children who are reading levels above 8 should only be changing their books once a week. This is to encourage students' fluency in their reading. Please remember the children will only be tested **twice a term** on their sight words and reading levels.

Guided Reading

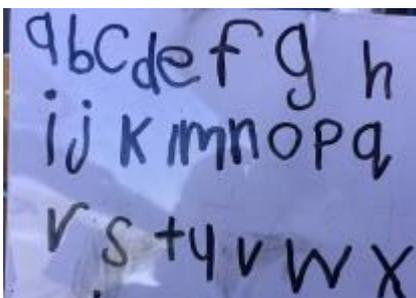
This term we will be doing Guided Reading for 15 minutes a day. During Guided Reading the students are put into groups and take part in literacy activities. One group each day will work with me, focusing on reading and comprehension strategies. During this time the other students are not allowed to interrupt our group and will need to use each other for support. The students not only build up their literacy knowledge but also learn how to work in a team situation.

Jolly Phonics and Spelling

This term the children will once again be divided amongst the four Reception classes depending on their individual needs. Some children will be revisiting their phonic sounds again while other students will now begin blending and explicit grammar lessons.

Writing

The children will continue to write everyday. We use prompt cards, pictures and watch short Youtube clips to help us write about different topics. They will also be completing recounts on different events eg: swimming. I will continue to model their writing and there will be many opportunities for the children to do free choice writing and writing in other curriculum areas. During this term we will be reading different fairy tales and looking at the structure of narratives.



Handwriting

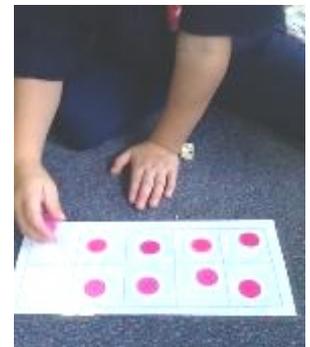
All children have made progress in their fine motor skills and handwriting. The children will continue to practise forming letters correctly in lessons that are play based. We also are fortunate enough to have access to the I pads, which have some fantastic apps that are great for practising the formation of letters. If you have an Ipad at home and would like to download some of these apps, please let me know and I will write them down for you.

Grammar

Lessons will be based on *Jolly Grammar*. The children will complete tasks to foster their understanding of how language works. This term our class will be looking at nouns, capital letters and sentence structure.

Maths

This term in Maths lessons children will continue to develop confidence with number sequencing, number lines and writing numerals. We will also be using concrete materials to help the children understand how to add numbers together using different strategies such as counting on, rainbow facts and double numbers. During weeks 1 - 5 we will be looking at two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects. For the last part of the term we will be looking at positional language (eg 1st, 2nd etc).



Science

This term in Science we will be focusing on how objects move. The children will be learning that the way an object moves depends on a variety of factors including size and shape.

STEM

This term for STEM the children will be involved in investigative play where they will be able to have the opportunity to engage in different Science, Mathematics and Technology activities. We will also have STEM challenges once every two weeks which will help the development of the children's problem solving and team work skills, as well as teaching them skills they will need in their future working environment.

Specialist Teaching Areas

Music and Drama with Miss Georgia Yates

This term in music, students will continue to learn about beat and rhythm through dancing, singing, movement activities and playing un-tuned percussion instruments. They will learn about tempo and form. Later in the term, students will begin look at the *Music Count Us In* song in preparation for Term 4.



In drama, students will focus on using body language to portray a message.

Health and Physical Development with Ms Stephanie Ryan

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.

Other Information

- ◆ Please encourage your children to bring their folders everyday.
- ◆ Students are required to wear their hats ALL YEAR!
- ◆ Remember that it is crucial to call the school if your child is absent as absentees and late arrivals are recorded in the roll book. If you are late please ensure that your child has a late pass which is issued at the front office. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if

the school has not been notified *prior to 10:00am*

- ◆ Don't forget to check your child's diary and folders every night for notes from me or the school.
- ◆ Please remember our 'kiss and drop' zone and leave the classroom in the morning by 8:40am to ensure the children receive optimum learning time.

News Presentations

Week 2 - What did you do in the holidays?

Week 3 – Free choice

Week 4 – Bring in something that rolls.

Week 5 - Bring in something that starts with the same letter as your first name.

Week 6 – Bring in a 3D shape.

Week 7 – Free choice

Week 8- Bring in your favourite Fairy Tale.

Week 9 - Tell us what you would like to be when you grow up.

Week 10 – Tell us what you would like to do in the holidays.

Swimming Information

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.

