



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 34b Newsletter

Term 2 2017



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Hello and welcome back to Term 2. I hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing break. I am pleased with how students have settled into the class and how they are working towards being the 'best learners they can be'. Some highlights from Term 1 included Harmony Day assembly and the Be Active morning. This term students will take part in the NAPLAN tests. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents who attended the parent/teacher conferences at the end of last term. It is a valuable session to get an indication of your child's learning progress and a chance to foster positive relationships between school and home to ensure successful learning outcomes.



Attendance

It is very important that your child is at school at the beginning of the day. Some of our most important learning 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 at the front office. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if the school has not been notified prior to 10:00am.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN test will commence in week 2. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. It is important to remember that NAPLAN tests are not pass/fail tests. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress. Parents and caregivers can best assist students by making them feel comfortable about the nature and purpose of the tests. For more information please visit the website below.

<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html>

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**

**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**



Homework

The weekly homework activities in numeracy and literacy will commence again in Week 3 after NAPLAN. These activities will be in their homework book. Homework books will be taken home each night until all homework is completed. Any extra homework such as uncompleted work or spelling will be recorded in the diary. Students may opt to participate in study ladder. Their user name and pass word can be found in their diaries. All homework books will be collected on Friday.

English

The main focus for this term will be on information writing, oral language, handwriting and grammar. Handwriting is completed every morning after the second bell has gone and students work on their letter formation and making improvements in writing neatly. Each week there is a new grammar focus where the students learn a new skill and apply it in their written work.



Information writing

The students will be learning how to write and structure information texts. This will involve students classifying, organising and recording factual information. Through this process they will be strengthening their research skills and learning how to find and locate information through the use of books and the internet. They will create and publish their own work and orally present their work to the class.

Through their presentation they will be learning to develop their public speaking skills which will assist in developing their confidence. The skills include:

- Voice projection
- Tone
- Clarity

Science and HASS

This term the students will explore an integrated unit of work in science and geography. They will be exploring the scientific concepts of night and day, to build on scientific knowledge and understanding of the phenomena. This will include:

- learning about how the earth rotates around the sun
- the connection between the earth moon and sun
- reading and creating information texts

In Geography students will be looking at how different climates have an impact on living things around the world.

The unit is designed to allow students to work in a range of collaborative ways, including in pairs, small groups and large groups. The assessment tasks will enable them to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills at a variety of levels.

Design and Technology

The students will be investigating the use of ozobots and bee bots. They will be coding and programming the robots to follow specific instructions and directions. They will be using this technology to investigate how it could be used on a global scale and how this sort of technology could be used in real life situations.

They will be looking at how different technology is used to help people in critical situations and try and develop a use for bee bots and ozobots.



Maths

The numeracy block will incorporate the Natural Maths Strategies which consists of 3 parts: mental routines, strategy lessons and problematised situations. We will

continue focusing on number through the big ideas in number program and use flash cards to improve automaticity in adding and subtracting numbers.

This term students will be continuing to work in number with a focus on multiplication and division. Students are provided with learning goals which are written in student friendly terms. This allows students to take some responsibility for achieving their goal.



Visual and Media Arts with Adele McKew

This term students will work on a visual story telling project. Students will learn about how stories can be represented visually by creating storybooks using natural materials and by sharing stories through 'talking circles', following the traditions of Aboriginal cultures.

Music & Drama with Ms Yates

This term in **music**, students will be focussing on pitch. They will look at pitch direction, use hand signs to show pitch and play melodies on xylophones. They will then begin learning about the musical staff and treble clef in preparation for our recorder program in term 3. Throughout the term, students will also look at composition and will spend time creating their own music.

In **drama**, students will continue to explore the different elements of a character. They will be using their voice, body language, posture and actions to create characters which they will then apply to various settings, times and places.

Health and P.E. 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 practise 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'.