



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 4 Newsletter

Term 2 2017



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Hello and welcome to Term 2. I hope you all had a lovely break and found the time to relax. I had a very busy couple of weeks full of family and friends. We spent Easter at home together which was lovely. I spent time in the yard organising our vegetable garden and planting the winter vegies. Ash and I went to the drive-in twice! We saw *Lego Batman* and *The Smurfs*. I spend the most time with Ky in the car as I'm taking him to where he wants to go now. Ash, Ky and I went to Berri where Ky competed in a cycling event. Paul was busy riding from Melbourne to Adelaide raising money for the Leukaemia Foundation. Cycling is a big part of our life at the moment. Paul and Ky are the athletes and Ash and I are the spectators. We did fit quite a bit in. It's always nice to be able to switch off the alarm and just have fun together. The 2 weeks went by so fast.

Term 1 was a very successful term for all members of Learning Community 4. We have all come to know one another, developed new friendships and have become familiar with the school. I could not be more proud of the children and all that they have learnt. They have developed a truly beautiful community full of kindness, understanding and support. We also worked with other classes and their teachers all while having a lot of fun. Thank you all for your support and all the extra learning you're encouraging at home.

Attendance

It is very important that your child is on time each day for 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 of your child's absence *prior to 10:00am*.

School Photos

We have school photos 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.

What's on this term

DAIRY DATES



Week 3

Thursday 18th May

School Photos

Friday 19th May

Colour Fun Run

Week 4

Thursday 25th May

Assembly

Week 5

Tuesday 30th May

Interact with Aboriginal Australia

VR Incursion

Week 6

Thursday 8th June

R-7 Assembly

Week 7

Monday 12th June

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tuesday 14th June

PUPIL FREE DAY

Week 8

Thursday 22nd June

R-7 Assembly

Week 10

Wednesday 5th July

Reports go home

Thursday 7th July

R-7 Assembly

Friday 8th July

Casual Day

with gold coin donation

Last day of Term 2
Early dismissal 2:00pm

Jolly Phonics

We will be continuing our work with the *Jolly Phonics* program throughout this term. Rooms 1,2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were taught all of the sounds last term and will all be learning together this term. To continue this learning all students from the 6 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 6 *Jolly Phonics* groups, and your child may be taught by Miss P, Ms. Allira, Tess, Mrs Hector or Miss Whelan or myself. These lessons will occur 2 times a week. We believe that this approach will ensure that each child continues to learn at a fast rate. We are very excited about this approach and cant wait to watch the students' progress.

Readers are changed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Borrowing Day is Monday



Reading

'Reading to the mind is like exercise to the body'. Sir Richard Steele

This term we will be starting our class novel, *George's Marvelous Medicine* by Roald Dahl. This will be a whole class shared experience focusing on reading strategies, comprehension and embedding a love of reading and stories. We will also be conducting Guided Reading sessions daily. Students will be working on a set task in groups while I read with a small group or individual students. This practise is a recommendation of Margaret Menner and is designed to focus on the many different reading strategies we use throughout our reading experiences. There will be a strong focus on comprehension this term. We aim to end our guided reading sessions by reading a big book together but sometimes the clock beats us.

Your child's reading level will be tested periodically and a certificate will be sent home noting their progress.

Numeracy

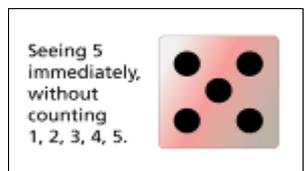
This term the children will continue with **number and algebra**. The children will participate in hands on activities to develop their counting skills. They will continue to learn the 'secret codes'. The secret code is the name given to a range of mental strategies created by Ann Baker (Natural Maths). Each strategy has a code that is used by students when solving problems eg. subitising (immediately recognising how many in a group), rainbow facts (any numbers that add up to 10), doubles (identifying objects which occur in pairs).

The children will also participate in activities involving measurement. They will use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer, heavier or holds more and explain reasoning in everyday language.

The children are working collaboratively with the children from room 5 during maths rotations. It is great to see their social skills and organisation skills developing.

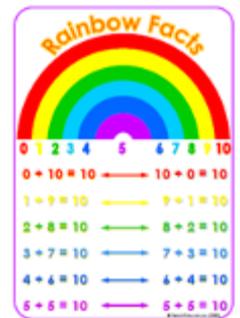
SUBITISING

Sometimes you don't need to count. You just suddenly know how many in a group.



RAINBOW FACTS

Pairs of numbers that add together to equal 10.



Our World

We will be exploring our world through Society and Environment, History and Science. During these lessons we will be working alongside Ms Allira and Room 1 students, Miss P and Room 2 students as well as Mrs. Hector and the students in Room 5. We will celebrate special days such as Mother's Day. During Science we will investigate the weather and our environment. In HASS we will be exploring Dreamtime Stories, Aboriginal culture and places that are special to us.



Specialist Teaching

The students will leave our classroom for specialist areas and be taught by the following teachers.

Resource Based Learning: Mrs. Wendy Galletta (Tuesday), Health/PE Mrs. Stephanie Ryan (Wednesday), Music and Drama: Ms Selena Britz (Friday).

Music and 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 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'.

Stephanie Ryan

P.E. & Health Specialist Teacher

Your child's PE lesson is on **THURSDAY** so please make sure he/she **wears appropriate sports shoes, clothing and a hat** to be able to fully participate in lessons.

Show and Share

Oral language plays a valuable role in our literacy program. Development and confidence requires consistency, guidance and practise. To accommodate this we have a *Show and Share* roster which allows each student the opportunity to orally address the class while providing a chance for all other students to practise good listening and questioning skills. This roster will start in week 2.

Leading up to this, we will be learning about what makes a good speaker, a good audience member and how to ask interesting questions.

Please assist your child by having a brief conversation about what they are going to be talking to the class about.



Monday - Ali, Callie, Conna, Damian
Tuesday - Drey, Jai, Jasmyn, Jordan
Wednesday - Landon, Liam, Lian, Lucas
Thursday - Pal, Rebecca, Sakina
Friday - Tsinat, Tyler, Grace

Topics

- Week 2** - All about my family
- Week 3** - Something I like to do
- Week 4** - My favourite book
- Week 5** - My favourite number
- Week 6** - Something I am good at
- Week 8** - Something I made
- Week 9** - Something round
- Week 10** - Something from outside

The Door is Always Open

Please remember that the door is always open. If you have any concerns or celebrations to share, please do. If it's a big chat you need to catch me in the morning or afternoon to arrange a time for a meeting. Remember that we are just not here to educate your child. We are here to offer support and guidance in anyway we can. Parafield Gardens R-7 prides itself on being a strong community with open and accepting arms.

