



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education  
and Child Development

# Room 21 Newsletter

## Term 1 2018



### Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Hello and welcome to the 2018 school year and to room 21. I hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday break with your family and friends. My name is Paul Smith and I will be your child's classroom teacher for 2018. Room 21 is a class comprised of Yr. 3's and 4's. I look forward to getting to know your child and family over the coming weeks.

Thanks to the parents and caregivers who have already come in to say hello and familiarise themselves with the classroom. If you haven't done so, you are more than welcome to come in. I appreciate any additional information about your child and their learning. Parents and caregivers are invited to our Acquaintance Night on Wednesday the 21st of February where we will have the chance to meet and you can visit our classroom.

Over the next two weeks we will be participating in activities that relate to our school PEACE values in order to establish our class rules, routines and expectations. These will allow the children to feel safe and happy at school, a necessity for effective learning. We will engage in collaborative activities that will help us get to know and understand one another better. These activities will help the children appreciate that although we may have differences, everyone deserves respect and the classroom benefits from the different knowledge and experience that each of us hold.

### Parent communication

Students will keep a diary and any important school or classroom correspondence will be sent through there. Please use this also for messages for myself although I'm also contactable through the email below.

### Classroom organisation

The classroom is open on the first bell at 8:35am. By 8:40am the students should be in class and ready to begin the day. This term we will start the day with collaborative Maths Games. If they arrive after this time they will need to go to the office, sign in and receive a late slip. If your child is away, you will need to contact the school. If you have not contacted the school an SMS text will be sent to you by 10am and you can respond to the text.

I look forward to a successful and enjoyable 2018!

Kind regards  
Paul Smith

### What's on this term

**PLEASE NOTE THAT  
ASSEMBLIES ARE HELD  
ON**

**THURSDAY OF WEEKS**

**2, 4, 6, 8, AND 11**

**Wednesday 21st February**

Acquaintance Night and  
Governing Council AGM  
at 6:00pm in the Hall.

**Week 7**

**Monday 12th March**

Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

**Week 8**

**Wednesday 21st March**

Harmony Day

**Week 9**

**Friday 30th March**

Good Friday Public Holiday

**Week 10**

**Monday 2nd April**

Easter Monday Public  
Holiday

**Weeks 10 - 11**

Parent / Teacher Interviews

**Week 11**

**Friday 13th April**

Last day of Term 1

**Early dismissal 2:00pm**

## **Term Overview**

### **Science/HASS/Technologies**

This term Room 21 will explore the Biological Sciences topic of 'Living Things'. Learning activities will enable students to develop their scientific skills of observing, predicting and classifying living and non living things, investigating and understanding life cycles and analysing how living things depend upon one another to survive. Deeper student understandings around 'Living Things' will be achieved through cross-curricular integration. Procedural texts will be used to communicate scientific investigations whilst nature related narratives will support learning. Mathematical concepts and skills such as measurement, graphing of data and pattern and number in nature will be entwined when applicable. 'Living Things' integrates easily with the Humanities and Social Sciences term focus of biodiversity and the role of bees in environmental sustainability. Design and Technology processes and production skills will be incorporated in the presentation of scientific and Humanities related learnings.

### **English**

This term students will participate in literacy blocks involving reading, writing and spelling tasks. Students will work in groups according to their skill level and needs. The literacy block will include activities in comprehension, phonics, spelling, writing, fluency, vocabulary and guided reading.

Students will be working to develop their skills and understanding of the recount, narrative and persuasive writing genres in preparation for the 2018 NAPLAN test early in Term 2. In addition to this students will have weekly handwriting lessons.

Reading and writing skills will be developed through the study of the class novel 'Charlotte's Web'.

### **Maths**

Students will focus on developing their sense and understanding of number this term. We will focus on the concepts of odd and even, place value, number patterns as well as addition and subtraction strategies. We will use Maths games, mental routines and problem solving tasks to develop these concepts. Open ended assessment tasks will be utilised so that all learners, regardless of proficiency, are appropriately challenged.

## **Visual Art with Amanda Drury**

Hello, Amanda Drury here. I will be teaching the students of room 21 on Wednesday afternoons. Our focus will be writing, and art. This term students will learn how to produce persuasive texts in writing, linking this through to Visual Art with persuasive posters. We will focus on using the Asian Visual Art styles of Anime and Manga and explore the differences between the two. The ultimate aim will be to create an individual scene which includes nature and portraiture using the Anime and Manga styles combined.

## **Drama/Music with Amanda Drury**

Welcome back to Parafield Gardens R-7 Music, Dance and Drama programme. This term our students will get down with the beat, learning what beat and rhythm is, and how to read, write and play a variety of rhythms. They will explore music opposites such as fast and slow, loud and soft, high and low, using singing, dance moves, and percussion instruments. Students will learn different ways to use their voices in singing and character development and enjoy opportunities to develop character roles in Drama by changing pitch and pace of their voices, facial expression and body language. With these skills, students will explore Process Drama, where they will learn how to become 'Superhelpers.'

## **P.E with Mr. Cuconits**

In term 1 students will learn about the dangers and effects of the sun and gain a greater understanding surrounding the Sun Smart program. Students will also be involved in exploring the concept of safety and keeping safe, as well as taking an in depth look at healthy lifestyles and nutrition.

The term 1 Physical Education component involves the following:

- Introductory / getting to know you sessions.
- Athletics – Students will learn a variety of track and field events including high jump, long jump, shot put, discus, sprints, 800m run and relays. They will also have the opportunity to try out for the SAPSASA athletics team.
- Cricket – The following skills will be practised and developed over a 5 week unit; Catching, throwing, batting, bowling. Students will also learn the rules of the game and how to score.