



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 24 Newsletter

Term 1 2018



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to 2018. I hope everybody had a good holiday and was able to have a change in routine. The students have made a great start to the year. We have been discussing our school's GOLDEN RULE of **working together** and **making good choices**. Due to the weather ALL FOOD and DRINKS are kept inside the classroom in the air conditioning. It is vital that we all keep up our fluids especially during summertime .

Thank you to everybody who has provided a drink bottle for their child as we have regular drink breaks in class time to help ensure we are drinking as much as we need.

Class structure

The class is a composite class Year 1 and 2 students which consists of 21 students. We currently have 10 boys and 11 girls.

Class Organisation

The students are divided into ability groups for areas of study such as spelling, writing, reading, comprehension, maths and computer skills lessons. This is a method of catering for the students' differing skill levels and ensuring that they are working at the level that best meets their learning goals.

Home readers

This year we will be using a PGR-7 Diary which is currently at the printers and will be sent home in coming weeks.

This diary will need to be filled in every night after your child has read to you or an older brother or sister at home and sent back to school daily. The PGR-7 Diary is designed to be a link between school and home. You will find valuable information to help you support your child at home as well as a reading log and a place for written communication.

Supporting Students' Learning At Home

I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to continue to support your child at home with their reading. Thank you to the parents who are able to listen to their child read or organize an older brother or sister to help out. It makes such a difference to your child's self esteem and helps them to make faster progress. Just 10 minutes every day is one giant key to success. The other giant key is that the practise is regular and is for a short time every night rather than just a couple of times a week or not at all.

When your child is away

1. **Ring the office to let us know or Send an SMS**
2. **Write a note in your child's diary**

Your child's safety is the greatest concern to us and therefore we must know where they are. Reasons for the students being away are recorded on the computer as well as the number of days absent.

An SMS will be sent to you if you do not let the school know.

What's on this term

**Assemblies are held on
Thursday of Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8
and 11**

Week 4

**Wednesday 21st Feb
Acquaintance Night
& AGM for Parents 6:00pm
in the hall.**

Week 6

**Tuesday 6th March
No Pen Day**

Week 7

**Monday 12th March
Adelaide Cup Holiday**

Week 9

**Friday 30th April
Good Friday**

Week 10

**Monday 2nd April
Easter Monday**

Week 10

**Tuesday 3rd to
Friday 6th April
Parent / Teacher / Student
Interview week**

Week 11

**Monday 9th April
Late Night Interviews
Friday 13th April
Last day of Term 1**

A MATTER OF SAFETY

In 2018, this building is accommodating several more classes than in the past. There are several hundred students entering and exiting the building. To avoid injuries to either Room 24 children, parents, caregivers and smaller brothers and sisters, we ask that you **please stand outside the double doors to collect your child**. Your anticipated cooperation is appreciated.

Your Child's Teachers are:

Class Teacher: Mrs Darian Tulsi

Health/ P.E. Teacher: Kylie Neilson

Music / Drama Teacher: Selena Britz

Resource Based Learning Teacher:
Mrs Wendy Galletta

English as an Additional Language or Dialect:
Mr David Muldoon

Premier's Reading Challenge

This year we will be taking part in this challenge. To receive a medal at the end of the year your child will need to have read or shared in the reading of 12 books which are chosen from a list. If your child comes home with a book that has a fluoro pink spot on it you will know that it is a book which is a part of this challenge.

In class the children and I will be reading and using the particular books to help ensure that all students will easily reach their target and thus receive a medal. The colour of the medal is determined by how many years the student has participated in this challenge.



PETS / ANIMALS

Sometimes during the year animals may be brought into the classroom. As part of Health the students will wash their hands at the end of such events. If your child is allergic or you would not like your child to participate in this please let me know.

In **Information technology** we will be working on lap top computers and learning key board and mouse skills while working on tasks using the Microsoft Publisher program. Sometimes, the students will be using maths and literacy games and activities on the computer as this provides another way of learning. We will also be using ipads in the classroom to enhance their learning.

Behaviour

At our school we have very high expectations of students' behaviour. I place the utmost importance on developing your child's self esteem, self worth and the belief that they will be successful learners.

I establish strong classroom routines and practices.

Appropriate behaviour is explicitly taught and is expected.

Where a student demonstrates positive behaviour by using their initiative, they get to put a creature in a jar. Once the jar is full the whole class makes the decision of what they would like to do.

The positive approach is very powerful.

For inappropriate behaviours demonstrated by children I use a variety of strategies, which are determined by the logical consequences of the action that happened.

I also use a range of Restorative Justice practices where the people most affected by the problem help find a solution. It may mean the person sits out, misses playtime, has time out in the office or writes a letter of apology.



All children want to be liked, to be successful and happy. They want to enjoy school and feel that they can achieve.

CLASSROOM CURRICULUM PROGRAM

Music & Drama

This term the class will learn how to read basic music notation which will enable them to successfully play simple musical pieces using the boomwhackers. The children will be given the opportunity to compose their own rhythms and will perform these to their peers. In drama, the children will focus on facial expressions and body language. They will learn how to convey emotions through the expressions used on their faces and through their body language and gestures.

Selena Britz - Specialist Music/Drama Teacher

Physical Education/Health

During term 1 in Health lessons, students will investigate keeping healthy, safe and active. There will be a focus on sun safety and the ways in which we can keep protected from harmful UV rays. Nutrition will also be researched, including looking at the different food groups, and how food keeps us healthy. In Physical education students will have the opportunity to participate in dance and a range of body movement explorations. Students will also practise fundamental

movement skills both with and without equipment. Participating in physical activity teaches students key learnings such as cooperation, resilience and social skills.

Please be aware that your child has Health and PE on **Thursday** and therefore will need to wear appropriate sports shoes, clothing and a hat to be able to fully participate in lessons.

Kylie Neilson - Specialist Health/PE Teacher

Partners in Learning

Partners in Learning or PAL, is where the Junior Primary and Primary classes buddy up for the year. We will be working with Melissa Ilko's Year 5 students in Room 28.

As the library is no longer operational for individual borrowing due to the STEM Works, there will be no set borrowing day. The children will however, have the opportunity to borrow books from our class library.

English

In **reading** we will be continuing to learn new sight words, increase our comprehension of a range of different texts, learn to read more fluently and participate in guided reading sessions.

Grammar is specifically taught in lessons using the *Jolly Phonics* program.

In **spelling** we will be continuing to recognise and write both the upper and lower case letters of the ENGLISH alphabet, learning blends, 3 letter words, digraphs sounds and how to spell words which are specific to different areas of study.

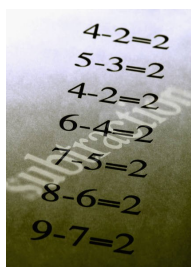
In **Writing** we will be focusing on learning to write sentences with good structure and grammar. We will also be learning to write a piece of recount and procedural text.

Letter formation and style is taught in **Handwriting** lessons with both the upper and lower case letters. Focus is placed on where to begin the letter, its correct formation and legibility.

Mathematics

We will be studying Numbers to 100, place value and counting in ones, twos, threes, fives, and tens. Students will also be writing numbers to at least 1,000.

They will be learning to solve simple addition and subtraction problems using a range of mental and written strategies. They will also use a calendar to identify the date and months.



Describing outcomes of events as 'likely' or 'unlikely' and identify events as 'certain' or 'impossible' is another skill to be learnt.

Science

The topic this term will be **WATER WORKS(Earth and space sciences)**

Students will be exploring and developing an appreciation for water, a precious natural resource. Through investigations, students will discover how water is used, where water comes from and how to use it responsibly.

In **Technology** we will be critiquing, designing and making, and comparing past and present designs. We will also be looking at a variety of technologies, reviewing products and making modifications. The students will be designing, making drawings and models, after which they will be evaluating their design and suggesting changes. The students will be learning the safe use of tools. This term there will be a focus on an oral presentation of a model.

COME AND CHAT

Please come and see me about anything that you would like to discuss either regarding your child's work, behaviour, or any other issues.

Short chats are great before or after school, Longer chats are important too however we would need to book a time. Just write a note or ring the school.

Kind regards...
Darian Tulsi