



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 27 Newsletter

Term 1 2018



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome students and parents of Room 27 to the 2018 school year! My name is Karl Ebert and I am incredibly excited to be teaching your children for the year.

I trust that you all had a wonderful break over the holidays and enjoyed the time spent with your families, friends and loved ones. I hope the students are well rested and ready for an enjoyable and rewarding year ahead. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work with both you and your child this year.

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who have introduced themselves during drop-offs and pick-ups. I have enjoyed meeting you and look forward to establishing steady communication with families. If you haven't had the chance to pop in and say hello, please do feel welcome. I am happy to answer any questions or hear your concerns via email or by phone if you are unable to visit in person due to family or work commitments. Acquaintance Night will be held on **the 21st of February** this year and I encourage you to come and see your child's classroom and meet with myself and other members of our teaching staff.

I am really looking forward to undertaking an invigorating and interactive learning program to provide deep understanding in all learning areas with the students in Room 27.

*"Success is the sum of small efforts,
repeated day in and day out"*

It is my goal for the students to acknowledge and embrace their own individual, unique skills as well as further their learning in the areas in need of improvement. This is optimised through parent, teacher and student **communication**, and is crucial in maintaining an orderly and productive learning environment.

If you have any queries or questions please don't hesitate to make a time to come in to have a chat. It is important that your child has an **enjoyable** experience at school and feels **safe**. Any issues that may arise need to be dealt with promptly to avoid any misunderstandings. I encourage students to approach me where possible to promote resilience and develop problem solving strategies. However, I also acknowledge that sometimes they need extra parental support. The leadership team is also available to students and families to discuss any matters further.



Assembly will be held on
EVEN weeks,
Thursday at 9pm in the hall

Wednesday 21st February
Acquaintance Night and
Governing Council AGM at
6:00pm in the Hall.

Week 7

Monday 12th March
Adelaide Cup HOLIDAY

Week 8

Wednesday 21st March
Harmony Day

Week 9

Friday 30th March
Good Friday (HOLIDAY)

Week 10

Monday 2nd April
Easter Monday (HOLIDAY)

Weeks 10 - 11

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Week 11

Friday 13th April
Last day of Term 1
Early dismissal 2:00pm

Diaries

As of Week 2 Diaries will be used to record homework and maintain a high level of communication between the teacher and family. Any concerns or important information can be written in the diary. Students are expected to write their homework in their diaries every afternoon before they go home and have them signed by their parent/caregiver every Friday.

Homework

Every Monday students will receive their Homework. Homework for Term 1 will be a regular reading program. Students should spend 15 to 20 minutes reading aloud to an adult on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Reading aloud is imperative to developing fluency and increasing vocabulary. Furthermore, there will be a signature required to show that the student has completed their reading and this will be checked on the Friday.

Parent Help

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for parents to be involved in class programmes, such as listening to children read, assisting with supervision on excursions, and joining us on special days, i.e. Harmony Day, Sports Day, Science Fair etc. If you would like to become a volunteer at our school, please enquire at the Front Office.



*“Work together,
Think together,
Act together.”*

Attendance

Children need to be in classes by 8.40am, with the first bell ringing at 8:35. If they are late they will need to go to the front office to collect a late pass which they give to their class teacher. Parents will receive an SMS if their child is not at school by 10:00am. Please inform the school via text, phone call or letter if your child is absent. Attendance records are kept for every student. Teachers are accountable for their students' welfare each day, so we need to know if your child is sick, or at home because of family reasons. **Unexplained absenteeism** is followed up by the school, due to concerns for students' safety and the fact that important learning time is missed. Thank you for your support in this matter.

PAL Class

Our class will be working closely with Miss Sarah Whelan and the Year 1 students of Room 6 to

support student academic development, as well as their social and emotional wellbeing. Room 27 students will be participating in buddy reading, fitness lessons and partner activities to promote collaborative learning and peer mentoring.

Learning Areas of Study

Mathematics

The class will engage in Mathematics daily. Times tables will be incorporated into our morning routine as well as completing their 'Mental Maths' books. PGR-7 is continuing with our focus on game based, hands-on number skill and fluency activities. These will be incorporated weekly into our class schedule.

The overarching focus for term 1 is number and place value however we will also be studying fractions and decimals, followed by financial maths.



The students have already begun pre-assessment tasks in these areas. This data will be used to ensure that your child's learning needs are recognised and catered for.

English

Throughout the year students will participate in daily reading routines to promote comprehension and fluency. The key strategies we will be focusing on are *inferring*, *predicting*, *visualising*, *questioning* and *summarising*.

During term 1 we will be concentrating on narratives and persuasive texts. I will be working hard to increase students' understanding of punctuation and grammar, as well as peer and self-editing. All students will have the opportunity to create, publish and share their own stories with a range of audiences.

In addition to this, students will complete their weekly, individualised spelling contracts with emphasis on increasing vocabulary and word knowledge.

Science

This term in science we will be exploring the structural features and adaptations that help living things to survive in their environment. The unit has a biological science focus but will also incorporate STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) concepts as the students will study how animal and plant features can be, and are utilised in manmade structures and technologies.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

In Humanities and Social Sciences we will be exploring two main inquiry questions:

1. *What do we know about the lives of people in Australia's colonial past and how do we know?*
2. *What were the significant events and who were the significant people that shaped Australian colonies?*

Students will have the opportunity to research and present their inquiry studies. The inquiry questions will be connected with other learning areas such as English and Technologies to increase students' knowledge, understanding and skills.

Visual Arts

This term, Visual Arts will be incorporated into a range of subject areas to provide engaging learning experiences. Students will be using a mixture of materials, techniques and modes. Primarily, Room 27 will develop their understanding of foundation techniques and concepts used by artists such as shade, colour, line and texture. These lessons will provide students with the skills to create and analyse more complex artworks later in the term.

Physical Education

My name is Matthew Cuconits and I am extremely excited to begin the year working at Parafield Gardens R-7 School. This year I have a full time position in the area of Health and Physical Education. I look forward to meeting and working with all students during 2018. 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 session aimed at making all students more comfortable with their peers and environment.
- 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.

Term 1 will also consist of a lunchtime sporting competition for year 4-7 students. Basketball has been chosen due to its popularity and teams will play every Wednesday in the Hall.

Mr Mathew Cuconits

Music & Drama

The class will work collaboratively to experiment, create, compose and play body percussion, table/chair and stick percussion and will use cups as their percussion instrument. They will maintain their own rhythmic patterns whilst other intricate rhythms are played at the same time. They will perform their percussion compositions to their peers and evaluate each other's work. In drama, the class will focus on theatre sports games, tableaux and improvisations. They will be given the opportunity to work collaboratively in groups. They will develop their stagecraft and characterisation skills.

Ms. Selena Britz

Kind Regards,

Karl Ebert



Permission Slip

During the course of the year, through our curriculum studies, we occasionally watch videos and documentaries. Some of the ratings will be P.G. Please indicate if you give permission for your child to watch these videos.

I do / do not give permission for my child to watch PG rated videos in Room 27 during 2017.

Student's Name:

Parent/Caregiver's Name:

Parent/Caregiver Signature:

Date:

