

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Hello and welcome to the new school year and in particular to room 30. I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday with your family and friends. I will be your child's teacher for 2018. I look forward to getting to know your child and family over the next few weeks.

You are more than welcome to come in and introduce yourself before school and after school. I would love to meet and get to know you all. If you have any questions, worries or information you would like me to know about your child and the learning please don't hesitate to come in. We will be having an Acquaintance Night on Wednesday the 21st of February where you will have the chance to visit the classroom and meet with me.

Over the next two weeks we will be participating in activities that relate to our school PEACE values in order to establish class rules and expectations that will allow all students to feel happy and safe at school. We will be participating in a wide range of 'getting to know you' activities for students to develop relationships with their peers along with developing a sense of belonging.

Parent communication

Each student has been given a diary which will be taken home each night with them. Any important information regarding school events or classroom newsletters will be placed in their diary so please check your child's diary. Please use your child's diary to write me notes as I will be checking them daily. We will also be using Class Dojo this year. I will be sending home parent/caregiver sign up information for you to then be able to contact me by email, as well as contacting the school before and after school hours.

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. If they arrive after this time they will need to go to the office 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 10:00am and you can respond to the text. 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.

Kind regards
Miss Paige Elliott

What's on this term Diary dates

Week 2

Thursday 8th February
R-7 Assembly

Week 4

Wednesday 21st February
Acquaintance Night 6:00pm
in the hall

Thursday 22nd February
R-7 Assembly

Week 6

Thursday 8th March
R-7 Assembly

Week 7

Monday 12th March
Adelaide cup HOLIDAY

Week 8

Wednesday 21st March
Harmony Day
Thursday 22nd March
R-7 Assembly

Week 9

30th March
Good Friday (HOLIDAY)

Week 10

Monday 2nd April
Easter Monday (HOLIDAY)
3rd - 9th April
Parent/teacher interviews

Week 11

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

English

This term, students will take part in a daily literacy block which will involve reading, writing and spelling tasks. Students will work individually as well as in groups according to their skill level and needs. The Literacy block will include activities in sentence structure, punctuation, handwriting, phonics, spelling, vocabulary, guided reading, narrative writing, persuasive writing, comprehension and reading strategies and literature responses.

Students will have weekly spelling contracts which will have them practise unfamiliar words using a variety of activities. Spelling tests will be every Friday morning.

We will also be reading a class novel 'Billionaire Boy' by David Williams

Maths

This term in maths students will participate in daily math mental which will provide them with a variety of different questions to get them focussed and ready to explore the following topics;

- Odd and even numbers
- Place value
- Addition and subtraction strategies
- Number sequences
- Word and number problems

Students will continue to revise and develop Natural Maths and Big Ideas in Number Strategies to Trust the Count by playing math games, using flash cards, participating in numeracy talks and problem solving.

Design and Technology

This term, students will participate in activities that investigate the sustainability of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment for a range of purposes.

Students will take part in creating a future environmentally friendly product using their sustainable knowledge to plan, evaluate and select appropriate, sustainable materials.

Science

This term, students will participate in activities that investigate Biological sciences. Students will look further at living and non-living things, their life cycles and the importance of the environment to survive. Students will be asked to plan and conduct scientific investigations, communicate their findings and compare and represent their findings.

Music with Drama with Miss Yates

This term music, students will focus on reading, writing and playing rhythms. They will define and create ostinato patterns and learn about tempo

and dynamics. Students will participate in dance activities where they will focus on body zones, levels and directions.

In drama, students will explore the different element of character. They will use facial expression and their voice to adopt and maintain a character. Students will participate in process drama and improvisation activities.

Health and PE with Mr Cuconits

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.

Art

This term in visual arts students will participate in activities that explore artworks and art techniques from different cultures and times, in particular artwork by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. Students will be given the opportunity to explore an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander artist further and create an art piece that showcases their techniques.

History

This term in history students will be looking at Australia and exploring significant celebrations and commemorations, First Fleet, European exploration and colonisation in Australia and life for Indigenous Australians before and after European colonisation.

Geography

This term, students will explore the importance of the environment to people and animals and the Custodian responsibility for the country.

Homework

Students will have weekly homework that will commence in Week 3. They will have a homework book that will contain their homework contract, advising what is required of them each night for homework.

Class Dojo

This year we are using class dojo to encourage important skills, like working hard and participating. I'll also use it to communicate with you: I can instantly share messages, updates and photos from the class. I would like to strongly encourage all families to join our class and sign up for ClassDojo! You can use it on any device: it is a simple free mobile app for iOS and Android, and can also be used from a computer at www.classdojo.com.

Thank you for taking your time to read through the class newsletter. I look forward to working with you and your child throughout the year.

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I have received the Term 1 Room 30 Newsletter.

Child's name _____

Parent signature _____

