



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education  
and Child Development

# Room 9 Newsletter

## Term 1 2018



**Dear Parents/Caregivers,**

I am very excited to be teaching your child in Room 9 this year. It was lovely to see how excited my returning students were on the first day of school. They show a great attitude to learning.

This year we welcome three new students to Room 9. Bailey and Jack join us from Lake Windemere Primary School and Andy will join us from Room 8. It has been fantastic to see how our new students have been welcomed by other students in Room 9. They have settled in very well and we can look forward to a great year of learning.

Please be aware that parents and carers are required to wait in the office if picking their child up early from school. A message will be sent to the child's class requesting them to come to the office. This is a rule which has been put in place so that we are fully aware of who is on school property at all times in order to keep our school community safe.

As in previous years students are being given greater responsibility around the class such as looking after and maintaining their own stationary. Students are asked to borrow a reader daily to practise at home. This home reading really assists in student progress. Thank you to the many parents who already dedicate time to this in the evening. It is by **working together** that we can achieve the best outcomes for your child. I will be sending home temporary diaries as we are in the process of printing new school diaries to use in Room 9. These should be available in the next few weeks. In the meantime please record all home reading and any communication to me in the temporary diary.

2018 will be an eventful year at school as we begin the new building projects. Presently the Resource Centre will be closed as the building commences. Your child will be able to borrow a range of Library books which are being kept in class. We will endeavour to change reader boxes also where possible.

We will commence our swimming program in week 2. Please send your child with their bathers, towels and either \$5 weekly or \$50 per term to cover the train fare and pool entry.

Soon I will be working with your child to develop **learning goals for the year** and would really appreciate your ideas. I look forward to seeing you on Acquaintance night. Please feel free to call or catch me for a chat if you have any concerns about your child.

Kind Regards,  
Rachel Shephard

### DIARY DATES

#### Week 2

**Thursday 8th February**  
R-7 Assembly

#### Week 4

**Wednesday 21st February**  
**Acquaintance Night 6:00pm**  
**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

**Friday 30th March**  
Good Friday (HOLIDAY)

#### Week 10

**Monday 2nd April**  
**Easter Monday (HOLIDAY)**  
**Tuesday 3rd - Friday 6th**  
Parent/Teacher Interviews

#### Week 11

**Thursday 12th April**  
R-7 Assembly  
**Friday 13th April**  
**Last day of Term 1**  
**Early dismissal 2:00pm**

## Term 1 - 2018 Curriculum

### Overview

During Term 1 we will spend the first two weeks going through the class norms, routines and expectations. The class will spend some time getting to know each other and in particular we will be supporting our new students to feel comfortable in their new environment.

Following our 'Orientation period' we will be enjoying topics about 'Our body' and Impressionist art.



### Literacy

The literacy program throughout the year will be highly individualised and have a strong emphasis on giving students intensive support to develop their reading, writing, talking and comprehension skills. Elements of the program include:

- Jolly Phonics/Jolly grammar
- Phonological Awareness
- Oxford sight word list
- Individual, shared and guided reading
- Spelling and Handwriting
- Journal Writing Harmony
- Vocabulary building
- Oral language development

### Maths

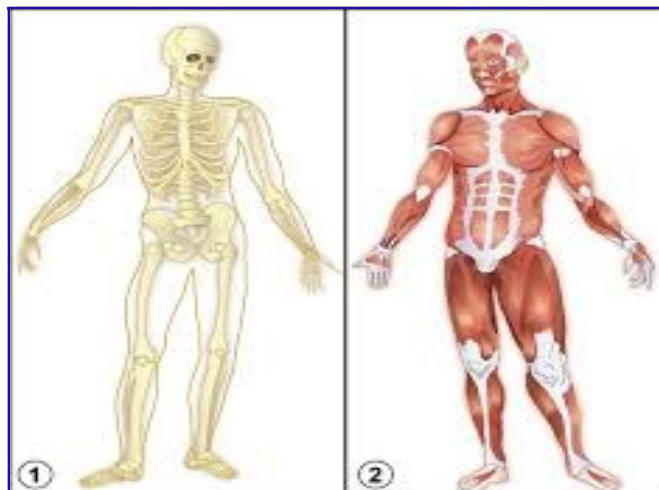
At Parafield Gardens we have adopted a whole school approach to learning maths through the *Big Ideas in Number* programme. This encourages students to solve maths problems using a variety of strategies and builds strong foundations in trusting the count and understanding place value.

This term we are focusing on basic number skills. We will be sending home some maths games for you to play at home. Please take care of these and keep them in your child's reader folder so that we swap them over when your child gains more skills.

### Science

In Science this Term we will be exploring the topic of "Our body". We will be learning about the different systems which enable our bodies to function. The skeletal system, the muscular system, the circulatory system, the nervous system, the respiratory system, the digestive system and the urinary system.

The topic will give students a better understanding of the complexity of their bodies and some of the things they can do to take care of themselves and stay healthy.



### Design and Technology

We continue to use ipads regularly in Room 9. Students will be given opportunities to use literacy and numeracy apps to support their learning goals. The program will also include:

- Studyladder
- Use of ipads and laptops in the classroom
- Model making using a variety of materials
- Use of literacy and numeracy software with in the classroom
- Cooking
- Programming using BeeBots and Spheros

We will also be continuing with our cooking program with our focus this term being on healthy eating.

### Auslan

During 2018 we will not be offering Auslan as a language at Parafield Gardens. However we will be trying to keep our Auslan skills as a class as we wait for the return of Mrs Krohn in 2019.

## Visual Arts and HASS

This Term in Visual Art and History we will be learning about Impressionist Art and the artists that pioneered this beautiful art style. In particular we will learn about the work of Monet, Degas and Van Gogh. In term 2 we hope to be holding an excursion to a visiting exhibition at the Art Gallery of South Australia called Colours of Impressionism.

In visual Art and History we will also be learning about:

- Australia Day
- Chinese New Year
- Shrove Tuesday
- Harmony day and Peace



## Physical Education

### A message from Mr Cucontis who will be taking the older student in the class in 2018

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.

### A message from Mr Poulain who will be taking the younger students in the class in 2018

My name is David Poulain and I will also be taking students for PE lessons. The students will have the opportunity to participate in dance and a range of body movement explorations. Students will also practice fundamental movement skills both with and without equipment. Participating in physical activity teaches students key learnings such as cooperation, resilience and social skills.

## Music

### A message from Ms Britz

This term the class will learn how to read basic music notation which will enable them to successfully play the recorder. They will rehearse and perfect their fingering when playing the recorder. They will learn how to read basic music notation which will enable them to play simple and basic melodies. The class will also focus on dance and will learn folk and partner dances. The class will learn how to create their own simple dance patterns/sequences which are appropriate to the music they are dancing to.

## Health with Ms Rachel

This term we will be focussing on building a cohesive class group. We will be establishing our class code of conduct and discussing what it means to be a good friend.

We will use social stories to learn about what behaviours help us get along and form happy learning communities.

We will also be learning about how we can help our bodies stay healthy through our Science and Food Technology curriculums.