



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Parafield Gardens R-7 School

Rooms 19 Newsletter Term 2 2018



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to everyone. I hope you had a relaxing enjoyable time with your child during the school holidays. I cannot wait to begin new units of work with your children and witness their journey through this next instalment of investigation, exploration and understanding.

SAFETY FIRST

Room 19 is tucked away with a small area to manoeuvre and leave our room. Whilst children are reminded daily to take care when leaving at each break and at the end of the day, it is quite difficult for them to avoid colliding with other bodies in the small walkway. To avoid injuries to either Room 19 children, parents, caregivers or siblings we ask that you please stand outside the double doors, to pick up your child. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Absences

If your child is absent please either ring the school or use the Communication Book to share the reason for the absence with us. We are legally obligated to have this information and enter it into our system. If your child is away without you contacting the school with a reason, an SMS message is sent to you as a reminder.

When coming to school during the day please make your way to the front office **first**, as it is again a legal requirement that the front office knows who is on site.

Arriving on time

Mornings in every classroom are important. This is when each child learns vital routines around reader change over, lunch borrowing and often the start of lessons for the day. The first school bell goes at **8.35am**. Everything that happens after that time is important. It is a time of the day when a child is most ready to learn. What may seem like a small amount of time in lateness certainly adds up over the term and the year. Getting into a routine where your child is responsible for time keeping and knowing when you leave your house to come to school is a great way to teach children time management, awareness of time passing and independence. Please make every effort to bring your child to school on time as this is a precious period in a child's life not to be missed. This is also the time that our older buddies come into the classroom to listen to the children read. It is vitally important that the children have every opportunity to practise reading. Children do enjoy progressing through their reading levels and truly appreciate the time you spend making sure they read as much as possible and extend their vocabulary.

Comprehension and Reading

When working with your child I cannot emphasise enough that questioning must be part of your reading routine. In the journey towards fluency, enjoyment and understanding, it is important that the children view reading as more than just words on the page. In order for the children to grow to view reading as a gateway to adventure, knowledge and a lifelong part of their daily life, children need to learn the ability not just to recognise and say each word correctly but they must be able to comprehend the message that those words are conveying to the reader.

What's on this term

Assemblies

THURSDAY OF WEEKS

2, 4, 6, 8, AND 10

Week 2

Wednesday 9th May

School Photos

Week 5

Reconciliation Week

Week 6

Tuesday 5th June

No Pen Day

Week 7

Monday 11th June

Queens Birthday

Tuesday 12th June

Pupil Free day

Week 10

Wednesday 4th July

Casual Day with Gold coin donation

Friday 6th July

Last day of Term 2

Early Dismissal at 2:00pm

Questioning your child each and every time they read to you means that your child will understand that they are required to think differently about those words. They will learn that there information to be gained that is easy to identify and that information can be used to enrich your understanding of a topic. Many children, throughout their journey through the reading levels, are quickly able to read every word on the page, but this is not enough. To ensure that each child progresses at an optimum rate, their comprehension of what they are reading must keep pace with their ability to decode each word.

Literacy

This term we will be concentrating on the books of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler and Lynley Dodd. These books are fantastic for teaching children to predict rhyming patterns and listen for the sounds in words, whilst being fabulously fun to read.

This term the children will be honing their skills at writing narratives. We have learnt the structure that must be followed when writing a narrative and now the children will be learning to improve their stories. They will be encouraged to allow their imaginations to run wild to create stories that are descriptive and interesting to reader. Children will also be improving their knowledge of the language required to write interesting recounts based on their life, both outside and inside the school.

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 the class library throughout the week.

In **Maths** lessons children will be doing work on Shape. They will learn to recognise and classify familiar two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects using obvious features. They will describe shapes and objects using everyday words such as 'corners', 'edges' and 'faces'. They will be learning to give and follow directions to familiar locations both through the use of algorithms and simple directional language.

In **Science** this term children will be exploring natural, made and managed features that undergo change through the Primary Connections topic "Up, Down and All Around". Through outdoor observations and photographic records, children will investigate the daily, weekly and seasonal changes in their local environment. They will be asked to observe changes that occur in the landscape and sky at home before and after nightfall.

In **Technology** children will continue to gain proficiency using ipads and a variety of robots to learn coding and practice writing simple algorithms. They will gain experience using spheros to improve their ability to write algorithms which direct the movement of the sphero. As part of this process and in keeping with the school's emphasis on Carol Dweck's theories about Growth Mindsets, the children will be learning how to recognize when their algorithm does not work and subsequently how to debug their codes.

During term 1 **PE** lessons, we are looking forward to focusing on Hockey and invasion games early in the term and net/wall/court games towards the end of term for PE. In **Health** we are learning about the five senses and healthy lifestyle/hygiene. There will also be a focus on friendships and getting along with each other this term

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

Mrs Neilson - Health/PE Specialist Teacher

In Music and Drama

This term the class will learn how to read basic music notation which will enable them to successfully play the recorder. The class will learn breathing techniques to help them improve their playing and will play simple melodic pieces with their instrument. The class will also be learning indigenous songs and music and will be participating in an incursion based on these by Musica Viva.

This year our **PAL class** is Mrs Foster's Year 4/5 class in Room 33. They will be reading with us and learning community skills through the *Play is the Way* Programme.

In **Visual Art** this term the children will be experimenting with colour and using and experimenting with different materials, techniques, technologies and processes to make artworks. They will be creating and displaying artworks to communicate ideas to an audience.

In **Geography** this term the children will identify and describe natural, managed and constructed features of places at a local scale and identify where features of places are located. They will learn to recognise that people describe the features of places differently. Children will identify changes in features and describe how to care for places. They will respond to questions about familiar and unfamiliar places by locating and interpreting information from sources provided. They will represent the location of different places and their features on labelled maps and present findings in a range of texts and use everyday language to describe direction and location. They will reflect on their learning to suggest ways that places can be cared for.

Naming Clothes

Please make sure your child's clothing is named so that if it is lost it can be returned as quickly as possible.

Communication

Please do not hesitate to come and see me if you would like to discuss your child's education or any other matter that you need me to know. If it is a quick chat in the morning or after school I am more than happy to see you then, but if a longer chat is needed then please book a time that is most convenient to both of us.

Kind regards
Jenny Radoslovich