



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2! I trust that you have all enjoyed a relaxing break with your children and that you are refreshed for the busy term ahead. I am very excited to begin my time working with the students in Room 26a for the remainder of this year while Deana works across the school as our new English Coach. My name is Erin Bertram and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Year 7 classes at different times during Term 1. We will continue to work with Room 26b and Kirsty and I have a rich learning program in store for the students this term!

A little bit about me; this will be my first year at Parafield Gardens R-7 School and so far I have received a warm welcome. In the past I have had roles in music, drama and languages and these are still a personal interest of mine. I am also highly interested in travelling and experiencing different cultures. I recently returned from a professional development trip to Scandinavia.

In Week 3 of this term all Year 7 students will be participating in the NAPLAN test over 3 consecutive days. Students have been supported in preparing for the test at school but can take further opportunity to do so at home using the set tasks on Study Ladder. There are a range of support materials available on the internet accessible using the search 'Year 7 NAPLAN practice'.

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere."

Chinese Proverb

Communication

Another very big thankyou to all parents for being so diligent in recording notes or contacting the school regarding your child's absences. Communication and sharing student progress is crucial in ensuring that your children are on track at school.

If you have any queries or questions please don't hesitate to make a time to come in to have a chat with me. 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 themselves 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.

What's on this term

Diary dates

May

9th	School Photos
15th	NAPLAN
16th	NAPLAN
17th	NAPLAN

June

11th	Queens Birthday
12th	Pupil Free Day

July

4th	Casual Day with gold coin donation Reports go home
5th	Final Assembly
6th	End of Term 2 Early Dismissal 2pm



Diaries and Homework

Students are expected to write their home work in their diaries every afternoon before they go home and have them signed by you every Friday. Each night they should also record in their diary the book that they have read and the page number that they are up to. Teaching children the importance of organisation at this level of schooling is detrimental in preparing them for further independence as they continue to progress through their years of schooling. I ask that you please encourage the correct use of their diary and check that it is complete each week.

Every second Monday students will continue to receive their Homework contract. It is expected that they will spend 10 minutes on it each night to have it completed for submission every second Friday. The contracts will focus on various elements of the curriculum and we will discuss it in class each Monday. From time to time students may also have other work which they need to complete at home. For further information about school expectations on Homework please refer to our Homework Policy.

Students should be reading to you each night for approximately 20 minutes. Reading aloud is imperative for developing fluency and increasing ones vocabulary.



Students have been provided with log-in details and passwords for the online program *Sumdog*. It is a great way for children to practise their skills as well as challenge themselves further. They are encouraged to use this program at home where possible.

Camp

This year we have been lucky to secure dates for our Year 7 camp at Woodhouse Activity Centre in the Adelaide Hills from Wednesday 22nd August - Friday 24th August (Term 3). Consent forms went home last term providing you with detailed information on the campsite, the activities that students will be participating in, food on offer and payment information. If you have nominated to follow the payment plan (paying in instalments) please adhere to the payment deadlines in the table below. Please note that the initial payment was due on Thursday 12th April last term.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Week 11 Payment 1 = \$25	Week 2 Payment 2 = \$25	Week 2 Payment 6 = \$25
	Week 4 Payment 3 = \$25	
	Week 6 Payment 4 = \$25	
	Week 8 Payment 5 = \$25	

Mathematics

In Mathematics this term our key skills lessons will cover a range of different content areas from the number and measurement strands including:

- fractions
- area
- perimeter
- volume
- capacity
- scale



Big Ideas in Number

We will continue to work with the rotational activities and concepts within the Trusting the Count and Place Value phases of the program to consolidate students' number fluency and understanding. Students will be tested on their understanding of these concepts, moving towards more challenging activities within the program.

Problem Solving

Students in Room 26a will continue to work on STAR problem-solving lessons. Students will be provided with a complex real-life problem that they will need to solve using a series of Natural Maths strategies.

English

In writing this term we will be covering the following types of text;

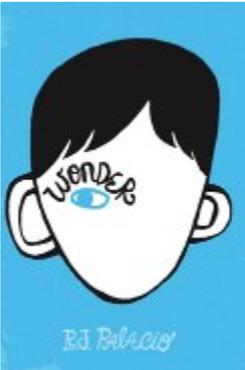
- ◆ Procedural Writing
- ◆ Debates
- ◆ Informal and formal letter writing

Students will continue to undertake literature circles, as they reported in their end of term 1 reflection that this is a really useful way for building confidence and fluency in reading. A literature circle is where a group of students (at a similar level of ability) read the same book, aloud to one another, and



complete a range of activities to critique what they have read. Using this strategy helps to encourage comprehension, fluency and vocabulary development, all of which are reflected in the student reading goals for this term.

This term we will be reading and analysing Wonder by R. J. Palacio.



“August or “Auggie” Pullman, a ten-year-old boy living in New York City, was born with a facial deformity that has made it difficult for him to make friends. He lives with his parents, his older sister Via, and his dog Daisy. He has been homeschooled up until the fifth grade, but his parents have decided that it is time for him to go to a real school.”

Students will complete a literature study as we read through the book. These lessons provide an excellent teaching opportunity for context clues and developing a strong understanding of comprehension strategies.

Media Arts

This term our students will be engaging in a Media Arts program to create their own school magazine.

Deana and Kirsty were involved in working with Year 6/7 students to create our school’s first ever magazine completely written and edited by students in 2016. It was a mammoth task but extremely rewarding when completed as all of the students’ hard work and effort certainly paid off.



This year our students will need to embody the same kind of commitment and motivation in order to complete the magazine and, hopefully, have it ready for sale towards the end of the term.

Students will experiment with the organization of ideas to structure informative, persuasive and opinionative stories. The magazine will strive to capture the point of view of our Year 7 students at Parafield Gardens. We can’t wait for you to see it!

Technologies

Learning in Digital Technologies focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking such as identifying similarities in different problems and describing smaller components of complex systems. It also focuses on the sustainability of information systems for current and future uses.

This term students will have opportunities to create a range of digital solutions, such as games or quizzes and interactive stories and animations using a range of coding applications and software.

Students will develop an understanding of the role individual components of digital systems play in the processing and representation of data including coding, branching and creating algorithms.



Health and Wellbeing

In Health we will be working through a unit of work adapted from the DECD **Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum**. The Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum teaches children in an **age appropriate way**, to:

- ◆ recognise abuse and tell a trusted adult about it
- ◆ understand what is appropriate and inappropriate touching
- ◆ understand ways of keeping themselves safe

These lessons are of utmost importance to a child’s education in Health and Wellbeing. The South Australian Children’s Protection Act, 1993 legislates that DECD must protect all children and young people from abuse within their own settings and the wider community.

‘It is DECD’s responsibility under its Child Protection in Schools, Early Education and Care Policy, 2011, to ensure that effective abuse prevention programs are implemented in schools.’

These lessons will be undertaken each Wednesday. I encourage you to provide your children with the opportunity to discuss any concepts after these sessions for which they may require further clarification. These are not Growth and

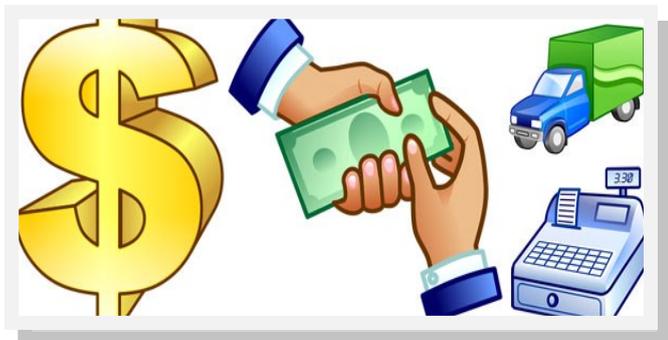


Development lessons. You will receive further information regarding those lessons which take place in Term 3 at a later date.

Humanities and Social Sciences

Economics and Business explores the ways individuals, families, the community, businesses and governments make decisions in relation to the allocation of resources. It aims to enable students to understand the process of economic and business decision-making and its effects on themselves and others, now and in the future. Economics and Business education is about developing informed global citizens embedded with critical thinking skills and future mind sets.

The study of economics and business develops the knowledge, understanding and skills that will inform students about the economy and encourage them to participate in and contribute to it.



These lesson sequences examine those aspects of economics and business that underpin decision-making at personal, local, national, regional and global levels. Students will learn to appreciate the interdependence of decisions made, as well as the effects of these decisions on consumers, businesses, governments and other economies.

We will explore the following inquiry questions during these lessons:

1. Why is there a relationship between consumers and producers in the market?
2. Why is personal, organisational and financial planning for the future important for both consumers and businesses?
3. How does entrepreneurial behaviour contribute to a successful business?
4. What types of work exist and in what other ways can people derive an income?

Science

Students will become forensic investigators this term, focusing on Chemical Science concepts. They will strive to answer the following inquiry question: What

techniques can be used in the separation process?

Students will engage in a forensic investigation to solve a crime, using a range of separation techniques to do so. The separation techniques that we will be exploring include: filtration, chromatography, evaporation, decantation, distillation and crystallisation. Students will draw on evidence to support their conclusions in a written report.



Kind regards,
Erin Bertram

Music and Drama with Chris Luke

This term in Media Arts we will be examining the exciting world of superheroes. Students will be designing their own superheroes with super powers, weakness and origin story. We will then script and create radio dramas around their adventures!



Health and Physical Education with Matt Cuonits

After an extremely successful start to the year, I am excited to introduce new topics that will allow students to develop new skills. In term 2 students will learn about how to form positive relationships with others and the effects that these relationships can have on them. Students will also learn about mental health and wellbeing with a focus on hygiene and healthy body image.

The term 2 Physical Education component involves the following:

European Handball - Students will learn a number of skills including; dribbling, passing, shooting, defending and goalkeeping.

Basketball – The following skills will be practised and developed over a 5 week unit; passing, dribbling, shooting, defending and game play.

Term 2 will also include a lunchtime sporting competition for year 5-7 students. Basketball has been chosen due to its popularity and teams will play every Wednesday in the Hall.

