



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education

# Parafield Gardens R-7 School

## Room 4 Newsletter Term 2 2018



### Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Hello and welcome to Term 2. I hope you all had a lovely break and found the time to relax. I had a very busy couple of weeks full of family and friends. I was lucky enough to spend the last week of holidays in warm Bali. It was my first trip away on my own and it was bitter sweet. I discovered so many beautiful places and met some wonderful people. I enjoyed the experience but missed my family. Paul and Ky kept busy at work while Ash spent time with my Mum and his cousins. We all managed to switch off and find some time to rest and relax.

Term 1 was a very successful term for all members of Learning Community 4. We have all come to know one another, developed new friendships and have become familiar with the school. I could not be more proud of the children and all that they have learned. They have developed a truly beautiful community full of kindness, understanding and support. We also worked with other classes and their teachers all while having a lot of fun. Thank you all for your support and all the extra learning you're encouraging at home.

### Attendance

It is very important that your child is on time each day for school, as some of our most important routines and literacy occurs first thing in the morning. If you are late please ensure that your child has a late pass which is issued by the front office staff. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if the school has not been notified of your child's absence *prior to 10:00am*.

### School Photos

We have school photos on Wednesday the 9th of May. If you choose to purchase a copy of your child's photo, packages range from \$26 - \$47. Please send your child in correct school uniform on the day along with the correct money inside the envelope if you have not ordered online.

### Boxes for Construction

It has been wonderful having families bring in their boxes and bits and pieces for Investigative Play. The children are using their engineering skills and creating wonderful things with them. It would be fabulous if you could continue to bring in regular and irregular building materials for the children to use.

### DAIRY DATES

#### Week 2

**Wednesday 9th May**

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

**Thursday 10th May**

**R-7 Assembly**

#### Week 4

**Thursday 24th May**

**R-7 Assembly**

#### Week 5

**RECONCILIATION WEEK**

#### Week 6

**Thursday 7th June**

**R-7 Assembly**

#### Week 7

**Monday 11th June**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**Tuesday 12th June**

**PUPIL FREE DAY**

#### Week 8

**Thursday 21st June**

**R-7 Assembly**

#### Week 10

**Wednesday 4th July**

**Casual Day**

**with gold coin donation**

**Reports go home**

**Thursday 5th July**

**R-7 Assembly**

**Friday 6th July**

**Last day of Term 2**

**Early dismissal 2:00pm**



We will be continuing our work with the *Jolly Phonics* program throughout this term. To continue this learning all students will be working alongside each other in groups with similar ability and learning styles. Each child has undergone assessments to provide us with information to place your child in the group that best suits their individual needs, knowledge and understanding. These lessons will occur throughout the week. We believe that this approach will ensure that each child continues to learn at a fast rate. We are very excited about this approach and can't wait to watch the students' progress.

## ENGLISH

This term we will be focusing on books written by Julia Donaldson. Story Tables will be established to engage and explore her texts on a deeper level. This will be a whole class shared experience focusing on reading strategies, comprehension and embedding a love of reading and stories. We will also be conducting Guided Reading sessions. Students will be working on a set task in groups while I read with a small group or individual students. This practice is a recommendation of Margaret Menner and is designed to focus on the many different reading strategies we use throughout our reading experiences. There will be a strong focus on comprehension this term. We aim to end our guided reading sessions by reading a big book together but sometimes the clock beats us.

Your child's reading level will be tested periodically and a certificate will be sent home noting their progress.

## MATHEMATICS

This term the children will continue with **number and algebra**. The children will participate in hands on activities to develop their counting skills. They will continue to learn the 'secret codes'. The secret code is the name given to a range of mental strategies created by Ann Baker (Natural Maths). Each strategy has a code that is used by students when solving problems eg. subitising (immediately recognising how many in a group), rainbow facts (any numbers that add up to 10), doubles (identifying objects which

occur in pairs).

The children will also participate in activities involving measurement. They will use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer, heavier or holds more and explain reasoning in everyday language.

The children are working collaboratively with the children from Room 5 during maths rotations. It is great to see their social skills and organisation skills developing.

## OUR WORLD

We will be exploring our world through Geography, History and Science. We will celebrate special days such as Mother's Day and Reconciliation Week. During Science we will investigate the weather and our environment. In HASS we will be exploring Dreaming Stories, Aboriginal culture and places that are special to us. These topics are explored further during Investigative Play.

### Music and Drama (Wednesday)

#### Georgia Yates

This term in music students will continue to focus on beat and musical opposites through dancing, singing, movement activities and playing un-tuned percussion instruments. They will explore pitch using their voices and begin to learn about simple rhythm.

In drama, students will develop character using facial expression. They participate in process drama activities where they will complete more complex tasks as 'Superhelpers.'

### Health & PE (Tuesday)

#### Kylie Neilson

We had a fun filled first term, getting to know all about each other, learning dance and fundamental motor skills in PE as well as sun safety and nutrition in Health.

This term 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.

*Kind regards  
Dani Tidswell*