

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 4. Again there is a great deal to pack in and prepare for throughout the term and the children have made an excellent start.

SAFETY FIRST

Room 19 is tucked away with a small area to leave our room and whilst the children are warned every day 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 and smaller brothers and sisters 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, as we are legally obligated to have this information. 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 sure that you 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 hear 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.

Don't forget that your child should be coming home with their reader folder, reader and small spelling book. Sometimes there will be newsletters or notes in the reader folder as well. The children are expected to go through their spelling words and read their reader each night. In your child's communication book you will find a few fun ways to help your child learn their spelling words.

What's on this term

**Assemblies will be held on
Thursdays in
weeks 2, 4, 6, & 9**

Week 3

**Thursday 1st November
Music Count Us In**

**Friday 2nd November
Sports Day**

Week 5

**Monday 12th November
Remembrance Day Ceremony**

Week 7

**Monday 26th November
Pupil Free Day**

Week 8

**Tuesday 4th December
POP Night**

Week 9

**Wednesday 12th December
Casual Day
with gold coin donation**

**Thursday 13th December
Class visits for 2019
Class party
Reports go home**

**Friday 14th December
Last day of 2018
Early dismissal 2:00pm**

Literacy

This term we will be concentrating on the books of Rod Clements and Roald Dahl, including some books based on particular events and times of the year.

This term the children will be using the skills of identifying keywords which they have developed during recount writing and using them to assist with writing reports. The children will be learning more about procedural writing in part through coding. Last term the children began the process of learning how to publish their work using Microsoft Word. This involves some time learning how to change the font size, colour and style and in particular the layout of the keyboard so that their typing is more efficient. The children will further enhance their skills in this area.

The old Resource Centre has now become the new and exciting Hive. This is primarily a STEM space but first thing in the morning and after lunch on Monday, the children will be able to borrow books to take home. There are some children of course who have never borrowed books from our Resource Centre before, but there are staff who are more than happy to assist from 8:15am each morning.

In **Maths** lessons children will be doing work on number. The children will be spending time learning to identify, describe and order Australian coins. They will be becoming proficient using a variety of strategies to add and subtract simple numbers. They will be consolidating their knowledge of the numbers up to and including 100. They will be practising their skip counting skills. They will be learning about data and how to display it along with the language of chance.

In **Science** this term children will be exploring *The Bend it! Stretch it!* unit. It is an ideal way to link science with literacy in the classroom. It provides opportunities for students to explore how we use twisting, stretching and bending to physically change the shape of everyday materials. Through hands-on activities, the children will investigate the effect of heat on the ability to shape playdough. They will recognise that they can cause changes to the shapes of things around us as we wring a towel out to dry, stretch a watchband to fit our wrist, bend a straw towards our mouth to drink or scrunch up a piece of paper before throwing it away.

In **Technology** children will continue to gain confidence in their ability to write algorithms and debug their codes to improve the efficiency of their instructions. The children will be using the iPads and various apps to improve their resilience when working to create code that works correctly every time.

In **HASS** the children will be learning about the various ways important dates are celebrated or commemorated throughout the world. Term 4 contains Christmas, Remembrance Day and Halloween for some cultures, however there are many more fascinating ways in which celebrations are undertaken across the globe.

Health/PE

Last term was a very enjoyable start to teaching at Parafield Gardens R-7 School. I have been especially impressed with the student's behaviour during **PE & Health** lessons. The students have really enjoyed learning about 'keeping safe' during term 3.

In term 4 the students will continue to learn about keeping safe in other areas including water and fire safety. During PE we will be continuing to work on developing the student's fundamental movement skills with a particular emphasis on throwing, catching and fielding.

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

Emma-Lee Dunstan - Specialist Health/PE Teacher

Music

My name is Alexandra Compton and I will be replacing Selena Britz for the first four weeks of Term 4, while she is away on leave.

I have an extensive background in music, playing keyboard, saxophone and singing in bands and I also write songs. My teaching history consists of individual, group and class music lessons, as well as band instruction.

Our class activities for the four weeks will include playing a variety of percussion instruments, such as hand drums, claves, marimbas and xylophones. There will be some theory, mainly rhythmic notation. We will also be practising the Music Count Us In song - 'One Song' and learning the dance routine which compliments it. If there is time, there may even be some practise of the Sports Day team chants!

I look forward to working with your child.

Alex Compton – Specialist Music Teacher

This term we will be working with our **PAL class** to create and learn our item for the POP concert towards the end of the year. We will be creating props for our performance also

In **History** children will be examining the recent past, the present and the near future within the context of their own world. Children will be given opportunities to explore how changes occur over time in relation to themselves, their own families and the places to which they and others belong. They examine their daily family life and how it is the same as and different to previous generations.

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