

### Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to Term 4. Wow! I cannot believe that we are already in term 4. I have really enjoyed working with Room 3 during term 3 and I am excited to continue with the great learning. The children seem to have settled into the new routines well, with morning reading happening every day, either individually, with reading buddies or in small groups with me. I have seen some steady improvements in reading and phonological awareness as a whole. I hope to see the same growth in the last term, as well as preparing the children for the fun and celebrations towards the end of the year.

### English

In English this term we will be focusing on the different text types and their structures, including letter writing. We will be writing letters to other class mates, members of other classrooms as well as having pen pals from children in another school. We will be looking at how letters get from one place to another, and how to correctly address an envelope. This will tie in with our continued studies in geography and maps.

All of the children have been working hard to learn their sight words and we have seen some great improvement! Sight words are the 'tricky' words that do not follow the typical rules of phonics and can generally only be learnt by memory/sight, rather than sounding out. We will continue to work as a class to see progress in this area too.

If there are any parents who would be willing to volunteer for 15 minutes in the mornings to listen to some children read, please come and see me. Any opportunity the children get to read at this level is so helpful to their education. In 15 minutes 2 or 3 children may have an extra opportunity to read aloud. Over the course of the week, that is half the class. What a bonus!

### Mathematics

We have really enjoyed learning about money during term 3, and this will continue during term 4 with the continued use of money as the reward system. I will be stretching the children further, by making the items for 'sale' more complex by including values that include cents too. We will also be learning about 2D shapes and 3D objects as well as strengthening our numeracy skills.

### Science

This term students will continue to learn about physical and chemical science. We will investigate how objects move depending on their size and shape, as well as changing every day materials, in a number of ways. The children enjoyed the opportunity last term to be 'scientists' and have started using scientific terms like 'hypothesis' 'method' and 'results'. This will continue in term 4 with more experiments and hands on activities.

### What's on this term

**BE HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY - Weeks 2, 4, 6, and 9**  
**At 9:00am in the Hall**

**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**  
**Parafield on Parade (POP)**

**Week 9**  
**Wednesday 12th December**  
**Casual Day**  
**with gold coin donation**  
**Thursday 13th December**  
**Class Visits for 2019**  
**Class Parties**  
**Reports go home**

**Friday 14th December**  
**Last day of Term 4**  
**Early dismissal 2:00pm**



## History

We will be looking at distinguishing between the past, present and the future, sequencing events and developing a narrative about the past.

## Health/PE

**Our Health and PE days are Tuesday mornings. It is vital that children come to school with appropriate footwear and a drink bottle.**

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.

**Emma-Lee Dunstan**

**Health/PE Specialist Teacher**

## Music and Drama Program

**Georgia Yates - Specialist Music and Drama Teacher**

This term in music, students will continue to prepare for Music Count Us In Day in week 3. They will continue to expand their knowledge of rhythm using stories about the Note Neighbourhood and apply these skills in different contexts, including playing them on xylophones. Students will explore patterns, rounds and echo in different songs.



In drama, students will explore drama using different settings and situations. They will combine voice, movement and expression skills to investigate and create stories.

## Absences

If your child is absent, please inform the school by phone, as a text message will be sent on the day if you have not notified the school by 10:00am. Please be mindful though that late arrivals and early dismissals result in lost learning opportunities for your child. By arriving on time, children participate in class routines, reading time and help to establish self help and organisational skills that will help to set them up for life. Early departures also impact on a child's learning time, often resulting in missing social lessons, or the hands on subjects such as science, STEM or music and drama. If this could be avoided in any way, and if we can help at all in reducing late arrivals, early dismissals or absences, please feel free to come and speak to me.

## Fruit/Healthy Snack

During the morning routine every day, children will have a chance to eat a healthy snack of either fruit, cheese or yoghurt. Studies have shown that children who are hungry cannot concentrate on their learning, so I will be encouraging a 10 minute learning break to 're-fuel' for the rest of the morning. Therefore, children will need fruit, recess and lunch packed each day, as well as their water bottles, especially as the weather will be starting to heat up during this term.



## STEM

Tying in with our literacy and letter writing, children will be looking at and analysing letterboxes to establish the purpose of a letterbox and how we know if it is an effective letterbox. We will then be designing and creating our own letterboxes to distribute along the hallway so that each class in building 3 has their own letterbox. There will be a communal 'post box' in the hall for children to post their letters into and our 'star of the day' will be tasked with grouping and distributing letters to the correct classes.

## POP

A reminder that our POP concert will take place on Tuesday 4th December. We are working with Room 25 to create our POP item which is based on Super Mario. Together, with Ms Yates, we are hoping to have a wonderful performance ready for the night. We will keep in contact in regards to costumes required on the night.

## Excursion to the Port

Rooms 1 - 6 will be going on a dolphin cruise on the first Wednesday of this term. This is a wonderful learning opportunity for the students and we are appreciative of all the parents who will be volunteering their time to be able to help on the excursion.

**Kind regards**  
**Kylie Neilson**