



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

# Room 10 Newsletter

## Term 1 2019



### Dear Families,

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2019 school year! A very special welcome to the families who are new to our school this year. I hope everyone had a wonderful break over the summer and you are all excited to get started with the busy year ahead.

It's lovely to be working with some students who I've previously taught in Junior Primary, as well as those students who are new to my class. I look forward to getting to know all of the students and families as the year goes on. Room 10 students have quickly familiarised themselves with our classroom and some of our daily routines over the last week. Year 3 is such an exciting time for students as they transition into the primary years. Part of this transition involves developing skills of independence and I am encouraging students to carry out their morning routine independently. This involves unpacking bags, entering the classroom and getting settled for the start of the day without assistance. Please encourage your child by dropping him/her off outside of the classroom. Many students are already well on the way to developing these important skills, which we will continue to focus on for the remainder of the year.

The staff working with your child this term are:

Sarah Whelan (Class teacher)  
Stephanie Ryan (Health and PE)  
Georgia Yates (Music and Drama)  
Kylie Neilson (Auslan)

### Personal items

Please continue to send your child to school with a water bottle as it is needed throughout the day. A reminder that hats need to be worn at both recess and lunch play times. If your child misplaces his/her hat, please organise a new hat as soon as possible. The navy blue bucket hats can be purchased at the front office for \$5.50. All items belonging to your child should be clearly named to ensure that if something is misplaced, there is a greater chance of it being returned promptly.

### Communication

Each student will be given a plastic folder for transporting diaries, notes, readers and sight words to and from school. The diary can be used to notify me of planned absences, issues or requests for interviews. I will use the diary to pass individual messages to parents.

### Absence and attendance

If your child is absent, please inform the school promptly. This can be done by ringing the school or sending an SMS. Please note that **each school day starts at 8:35**. Students arriving late must collect a late pass from the front office prior to coming to the classroom. The school day ends at **2.15pm on Monday** and **3:00pm Tuesday to Friday**.

### DIARY DATES

**THIS TERM ASSEMBLIES ARE HELD ON THURSDAY OF WEEKS 2, 4, 6, 8, 11 at 9:00am in the Hall**

**Wednesday 13th February  
Acquaintance Night & AGM  
6:30pm in the Hall**

**Tuesday 26th February  
No Pen Day**

**Monday 11th March  
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday**

**Friday 29th March  
Partnership Pupil Free Day**

**Monday 1st to Friday 5th April  
Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Wednesday 10th April  
Casual Day with  
Gold Coin Donation**

**Friday 12th April  
Last day of Term 1  
With Early Dismissal at 2:00pm**

*Always have a go!*

Remember **mistakes** are stepping stones to **learning!**

## English

### **Spelling**

Each week students will learn to spell five new words through fun spelling activities. Students' spelling lists will be a combination of words from the Oxford Wordlist and word families.

### **Reading**

All students will be allocated a take home reader, which is changed on a daily basis. Students are tested regularly to ensure that they are reading at a level that is appropriate for them.

If needed, students will be given a book of sight words to take home and it is important that these are practised regularly. Once students have successfully read their sight words to me, I will mark them off with a highlighter and keep a record for each student.

Students will develop their reading and comprehension skills through shared reading experiences with both fiction and non-fiction texts, and through guided reading activities.

### **Writing and grammar**

Our grammar lessons will be centred around punctuation and sentence structure. These elements will be incorporated into students' writing as they focus on narrative and persuasive writing this term.

### **Handwriting**

Letter formation of both upper and lower case letters will be reviewed in handwriting lessons. Focus is placed on where to begin the letter, its correct formation and legibility.

## Mathematics

In Maths this term students will develop their understanding of number through various learning programs such as Big Ideas in Number and Natural Maths. Students will practise addition and subtraction strategies and develop their understanding of place value. We will work with the Year 3 students in Room 7 during Maths rotations.

## HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences)

Our history component will involve learning about celebrations and commemorations that are significant to Australia and other countries around the world. This learning will continue throughout the year. In geography, students will learn about the representation of Australia as states and territories and as countries/ places of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## Science

We will focus on biological science this term, and students will compare living and non-living things. They will spend time exploring and caring for our new garden near The Hive. Students will build on their inquiry skills by collecting and interpreting data and organising information into graphs.

## Visual Arts/Technology

Digital technology lessons will take place in both the classroom and The Hive, which will involve the use of computers, iPads, Spheros and Ozobots. Students will have the opportunity to participate in many visual arts activities throughout the term. We are currently collecting recyclable materials for art, craft and design lessons, so any contributions would be appreciated. We would like items such as ice cream containers, egg cartons and small cardboard boxes.

## Health & PE - Mrs. Ryan

The Physical Education program at Parafield R-7 School provides students the opportunity to participate in a wide range of physical activities and learning many sporting skills. Term 1 will involve developing and strengthening the students' fundamental movement skills through taking part in sporting activities and games that look at improving coordination, strengthening fine and gross motor skills, while learning new sporting activities. Many games will allow students to work cooperatively with others and promote both individual growth and positive social skills.

The P.E. program will allow sufficient time in each unit to provide opportunities for students to acquire an understanding of body control and manipulation to be able to demonstrate and show progression of their motor skills. Students will practice individually and work with others to refine their range of movement skills including running, skipping, hopping, jumping and leaping to assist them to confidently participate in various games.

Learning to play team games is essential for students to become aware of the spatial requirements needed for safe play, to learn to self-regulate their emotions and to learn to conduct themselves safely.

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

I am looking forward to working with your child this term!

## Music & Drama - Ms. Yates

This term in music students will read, write and compose rhythms using ta, titi, za and tika tika. They will investigate the difference between beat and rhythm and practise their discoveries through playing bordun and ostinato patterns using xylophones. They will perform dances using different levels, direction, shape and tempo. In drama, students will use facial expression, body language and gesture to become characters and show their reaction to different situations. Students will focus on creating and sustaining a setting using tableau and mime.

## Auslan - Mrs Neilson

Language Other Than English – Australian Sign Language is the recognised visual language of the Deaf community. During First Term the students will be reviewing basic greetings, numbers and colours, and expanding Auslan vocabulary and grammar features through various class related topics. The students will learn through sign games, songs, video, the use of IT equipment, signed conversations and written projects.

## Come and chat

Please come and see me about anything that you would like to discuss about your child's work, behaviour or any other concerns. Short chats are great before or after school. Longer chats are important too, however we would need to book in a time. Parent/teacher interviews will be held in week 10 but if you need another time, I can arrange that with you in person or via your child's diary.

*Kind regards,  
Sarah Whelan*