



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Room 23 Newsletter

Term 1 2019



Dear Families,

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to all families. I hope your child has had a good holiday and is ready to meet some new classmates and embark on Year 2 learning.

Clearly, reading is an important part of any child's education. Here is something for you to ponder...Oscar Wilde once said, "If one cannot enjoy reading a book over and over again, there is no use in reading it at all". This is especially important for children who are reading from Level 1-20, because it consolidates their reading strategies and increases confidence. I encourage all parents to spend time discussing their child's reader as much as possible. This will not only help develop language skills, but will also work towards achieving a minimum reading level of 21 (which is the suggested guideline for Year 2 children by the end of this year). **A useful tip:** when the children are reading difficult words, ask them to **SAY THE SOUND OUT LOUD - NOT THE LETTER.** By using this method you can hear if they are reading correctly. Please also support your child to regularly practise their sight words. Your child will soon bring home an information book which includes Oxford Sight Words, strategies for helping with spelling and other useful content.

The children's **Diary** has a dual purpose. It will make the daily journey between home and school (as a vehicle of communication), as well as serving as a Spelling Work Book. **IF YOU WRITE ME A MESSAGE, PLEASE ASK YOUR CHILD TO BRING IT TO MY ATTENTION THE FOLLOWING MORNING.** The children will have a new spelling list each Friday and will also be tested on the previous week's words each Friday. (We will start this in the next week or so). I encourage parents to help their child in preparation for this weekly spelling test.

I am sure you are all aware of the **Jolly Phonics Program** in which our children were involved last year. The homework component of this will continue this year, so I would be very grateful for your support with this.

Occasionally during the year, animals may be brought into the room as a part of the Oral Language component of News. Of course the children will wash their hands at the end of such events, but if your child is allergic or you would not like your child to participate in this, please let me know.

If you would like to **cover your child's books, please take them home on a Friday and return them the following Monday, ready for your child to use.** Children like to choose novelty covers, but please make sure that each book is clearly labelled and therefore easily identifiable.

As you know, schools have a legal obligation to monitor the attendance of our children. To this end, the office will send parents and caregivers an SMS at 10:00am if your child is absent and we have not received notification. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this matter. If your child is late they will need to go to the office to collect a late slip, which they will pass on to me.

In the interests of the children's safety, we would like to minimize the number of adults on our school grounds. For this reason we ask that if you need to communicate with your child during the day (to drop off lunch or to collect them early) please go to the front office and the matter will be followed up from there.

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**

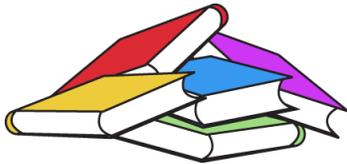
**Wednesday 10th April
Casual Day with
Gold Coin Donation**

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



BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT Treating each other respectfully is an important value at school. I use a Restorative Justice approach where I ask the children to be involved in being part of the solution. As a whole group, we have discussed: (a) why we need rules (b) what our class and school rules are and (c) the consequences of inappropriate behaviour.

ENGLISH This term we will begin weekly spelling tests and focus on high frequency words. Our writing lessons will have an emphasis on recount genre ie the stating of events in sequence - 'On the weekend.....' Our second genre will be Persuasive Texts. We will use the *Brightpath Writing* model throughout the year to measure and improve our writing genres. This subject also includes weekly handwriting lessons.



MATHEMATICS We will investigate the counting sequences of 2, 3, 5 and 10. We will also deal with calendars; explore half and quarter transformations; work with hundreds, tens and units to 1,000; and explore 2D and 3D shapes.

SCIENCE Our Primary Connections topic is entitled 'Water works'. It is the Earth and space sciences sub section of this program. It will be a cross-curricula theme involving lessons in Technology and Visual Arts.

VISUAL ARTS This term our learning will include a component of indigenous art. We will explore a variety of techniques and mediums such as dot painting, clay modelling and we will also be involved in appraising our creative products.



TECHNOLOGIES Our focus this term will be the Design and Technologies component of this subject, where we will access iPads and Laptops. The students will design environmentally friendly Nude Food lunch boxes, learn the basics of touch typing and word processing.

HASS The History component of this subject will be our focus for Term 1. We will use photos and artefacts to compare objects from the past and present. Our learning will identify how and why the lives of people have changed over time.

STEM STEM is the acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. We are looking

forward to working in the new STEM area to engage in critical thinking and problem solving challenges that are an integral part of this learning process.

Growth Mindset

At Parafield Gardens R-7 School, we encourage students to have a 'Growth Mindset'. There have always been conflicting arguments about intelligence with some believing that intelligence is something you are born with (nature) and others believing that intelligence can be changed or developed. "... *our studies show that teaching people to have a 'growth mind-set,' which encourages a focus on effort rather than on intelligence or talent, helps make them into high achievers in school and in life.*" **Carol Dweck** We therefore place an emphasis on hard work, persistence and resilience at this school.



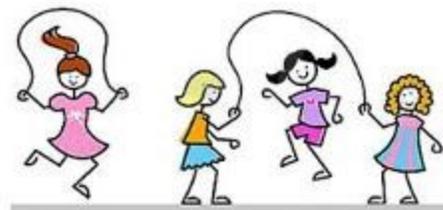
A MATTER OF SAFETY

There are several hundred students entering and exiting our building. To avoid injuries to either Room 23 children, parents, caregivers and smaller brothers and sisters we ask that you please stand outside the double doors to collect your child. You are most welcome to come into the classroom to see me after the initial rush is over. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this.

HEALTH and PE with Stephanie 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 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 Wednesday and therefore will need to wear appropriate sports shoes, clothing and a hat to be able to fully participate in lessons.

During Term 1, the Health Education curriculum will cover 'Our Body', 'Emotions/Feelings' and 'Friendship' topics including, learning about our five senses, learning how to look after our body with good hygiene and understanding the importance of being active and taking part in physical activities to keep their body healthy. It is important for students to discuss and learn about differences in body shapes, size, strength and abilities in order to accept it as being 'normal' to be different.

Students will also be learning about social & emotional skills by looking at different facial expressions and body languages and understanding how we can read other peoples' facial and body expressions to get a sense of how they are feeling. This will encourage and support discussions on the topic of 'emotions/feelings' and what it means. It will also assist in learning about relationship topics- e.g. Friendship and how to act and behave accordingly.

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



Music and Drama with Georgia Yates

This term in music students will feel, show, move and track the beat of various songs. They will practise reading and writing rhythms using ta, titi and za. Students will learn to show pitch using hand signs and will gain confidence when singing solo. 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. They will practise showing differing points of view using tableau and mime.



HERE IS THE NEWS ROSTER I will inform you of the weekly themes as the term progresses. We will commence this roster in Week 3 (11th Feb), and the topic will be Free Choice.

<u>M</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Th</u>	<u>F</u>
Carley	Rebecca	Kaylee	Claire	Shae
Hope	Amber	Brock	Ali	Erik
Jaison	Tyler	Landon	Anoush	Nhan
Yuri	Tawhid	Peter	Japjot	

It's been wonderful to meet many parents and caregivers during the first few days. I look forward to a happy and productive year with you and your child.

Kind regards,
Sue Pasalidis

