



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Room 27 Newsletter

Term 1 2019



Dear Families,

Hello and welcome to the new school year at Parafield Gardens R—7 in Room 27. I hope you have had a relaxing break over the holidays with your family and friends. My name is Ms Amber Miller and I will be your child's teacher for 2018. I look forward to getting to know your child and family over the coming weeks. Please feel welcome to come in and introduce yourself before and after school. I would love to meet and get to know you all. If you have any questions, worries or information you would like me to know about your child and their learning please don't hesitate to come in or contact me. We will be having an Acquaintance Night on Wednesday the 13th of February where you will have the chance to visit the classroom and meet with me.

Over the next two weeks we will be participating in activities that relate to our school PEACE values in order to establish class rules and expectations that will allow all students to feel happy and safe at school. We will be participating in a wide range of 'getting to know you' and growth mindset activities for students to develop relationships with their peers along with developing a sense of belonging.

Parent communication

Each student has been given a diary and take home folder which will come home each night with them. Any important information regarding school events or classroom newsletters will be placed in their diary so please check your child's diary. Please use your child's diary to write me notes as I will be checking them daily. We will also be using Class Dojo this year. I will be sending home parent/caregiver sign up information for you to then be able to contact me by email, as well as contacting the school before and after school hours.

Classroom organisation

The classroom is open on the first bell at 8:35am. By 8:40am the students should be in class and ready to begin the day. If they arrive after this time they will need to go to the office and receive a late slip. If your child is away you will need to contact the school. If you have not contacted the school an SMS text will be sent to you by 10:00am and you can respond to the text. If they are late they will need to go to the front office to collect a late pass which they then give to their class teacher.

Early in the term, your child will negotiate their Maths and English goals with us. Students will reflect on data from last year and from early assessments that will be completed within the first two weeks of school. These learning goals will be sent home and further discussed with you at the parent/teacher/student conferences in Week 10.

THIS TERM ASSEMBLIES WILL BE HELD ON

Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, & 11
at 9pm in the hall

Wednesday 13th February
Acquaintance Night and
Governing Council AGM at
6:30 in the Hall.

Week 7

Monday 11th March
Adelaide Cup HOLIDAY

Week 8

Thursday 21st March
Harmony Day

Weeks 10

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

Weeks 11

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

Friday 12th April
Last day of Term 1
Early dismissal 2:00pm

Finally, help us to help you! Please clearly label all school equipment and items of clothing especially, jumpers, jackets, drink bottles and hats. Labelled items are easily returned to students or can be easily identified in lost property.

English

This term, students will take part in a literacy block each day which will involve reading, writing and spelling tasks. Students will work on some activities individually as well as in groups according to their skill level and needs. The Literacy block will include activities in sentence structure, punctuation, grammar, handwriting, phonics, spelling, vocabulary, guided reading, narrative writing, persuasive writing, comprehension and reading strategies and literature responses.

Students will have weekly spelling contracts which will give them opportunities to learn and spell unfamiliar words using a variety of activities. Spelling tests will be every Friday morning.

We will also be reading a class novel 'How To Train Your Dragon ' By Cressida Cowell.

Maths

This term in maths, students will participate in daily maths mental which will provide them with a variety of different questions to get them focussed and ready to explore the following topics:

- odd and even numbers
- place value
- addition and subtraction strategies
- number sequences
- word and number problems
- measurement

Students will continue to revise and develop Natural Maths and Big Ideas in Number Strategies in Trust the Count and Place Value by playing maths games, using flash cards, participating in numeracy talks and problem solving.

Design and Technology

This term the students will be creating a language-learning program. They will work collaboratively to create a computer program to learn a traditional Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language.

Science

This term, students will participate in activities that investigate Biological sciences. Students will look at the relationships between plants and animals, their life cycles and the importance of the environment to survive. Students will be asked to plan and conduct scientific investigations, communicate their findings and compare and represent their findings.

Music with Drama with Miss 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. They will investigate the effects of tension and focus in dramatic works and apply these to their performances.

Art

This term in visual arts students will participate in activities that explore artworks and art techniques from different cultures and times, in particular artwork by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. Students will be given the opportunity to explore an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander artist further and create an art piece that showcases their techniques.

HASS

This term in HASS, students will be looking at Australian history, exploring significant celebrations, events and commemorations, First Fleet, European exploration and colonisation in Australia and life for Indigenous Australians before and after European colonization. Students will explore the importance of the environment to people and animals and the Custodian responsibility for the country.

Homework

Students will have weekly homework that will commence in Week 3. They will have a homework book that will contain their homework contract, advising what is required of them each night for homework.

Class Dojo

This year we are using class dojo to encourage important skills, like working hard and participating. I'll also use it to communicate with you: I can instantly share messages, updates and photos from the class. I would like to strongly encourage all families to join our class and sign up for ClassDojo! You can use it on any device: it is a simple free mobile app for iOS and Android, and can also be used from a computer at www.classdojo.com

Thank you for taking your time to read through the class newsletter. I look forward to working with you and your child throughout the year.

*Kind Regards,
Amber Miller*