



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 31 Newsletter

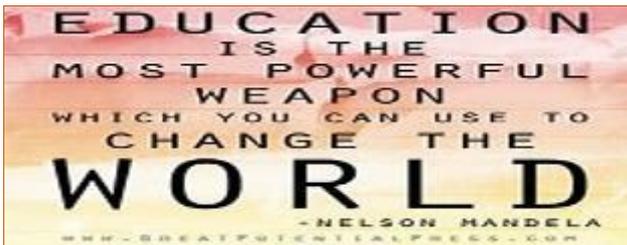
Term 1 2018



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2019 school year and to Room 31. I especially welcome our new families beginning their journey with us at Parafield Gardens R-7 School. I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday with your family and friends. My name is Paige Elliott and I will be your child's class teacher for 2019. I look forward to getting to know your child and family over the next few weeks.

You are more than welcome to come in and introduce yourself before school and after school. I would love to meet and get to know each of you. If you have any questions, concerns or information you would like me to know about your child and their learning please don't hesitate to come in or call the school. We will also be having an Acquaintance Night on Wednesday the 21st of February where you will have the chance to visit the classroom and meet with me.



A bit about me....

I began working at Parafield Gardens R-7 School in 2017 working in many different classrooms across the school. Last year I worked with a Year 4s class in room 30. I am very excited to be teaching your child in their final year of primary school and after our first week together I can see it's going to be a successful year full of new opportunities.

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' activities for students to develop relationships with their peers along with developing a sense of belonging.

Parent communication

Parent and teacher communication is crucial to maintaining an orderly and productive learning environment. If your child is absent please remember to contact the school to inform us as to the reason why. You can do this by writing a note in their diary, calling the school, sending me an email or replying to the text message you receive on the morning of their absence.

What's on this term 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
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**

If you have any queries or questions please don't hesitate to make a time to come in and have a chat with me. My door is always open! It is important that your child has an enjoyable experience at school and feels safe. Any issues that may arise need to be dealt with promptly to avoid any misunderstandings. I encourage students to approach me themselves where possible to promote resilience and develop problem solving strategies. However I also acknowledge that sometimes they need extra parental support. The leadership team is also available for students and families to discuss any matters further.

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 8:45am they will need to go to the office and to collect a late slip. If your child is away we ask that you 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 this text.

Diaries and Homework

Every student received their diary on the first day of school. They are expected to write their homework in their diary each afternoon before they go home. 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.

Every second Monday students will receive their Homework contract. It is expected that they will spend a minimum of 10 minutes on it each night to have it completed for submission every second Thursday (each contract should take students approximately 70 minutes - 10 minutes each evening Monday to Wednesday for two weeks). Having these contracts for two weeks means that students and families have flexibility as to when time is spent on Homework. Students may choose to spend 40 minutes working on their Homework contract two evenings each fortnight or 20 minutes for four evenings, allowing for sports or other commitments. The contracts will focus on various elements of the curriculum and we will discuss it in class each Monday. Students are always encouraged to come and see me if they are unsure about any elements of their contract - WELL in advance of the due date, absolutely not on the morning that it is due!

From time to time students may also have other work which they need to complete at home. For further information about school expectations on

Homework please refer to our Homework Policy.

Students should be reading to you each night for a minimum of 10 minutes. Reading aloud is imperative to developing fluency and increasing ones vocabulary. I believe that reading is the most important homework for children and focus largely on ensuring that it is a priority.

English

In writing this term we will be covering the following types of text;

- Persuasive writing
- Narrative writing

Students will also undertake literature circles. A literature circle is where a group of students (at a similar level of ability) read the same book, aloud to one another and complete a range of activities to critique what they have read. Using this strategy helps to encourage comprehension, fluency and vocabulary development, all of which are reflected in the student reading goals for this term.

Students will have weekly spelling contracts which will have them practice unfamiliar words using a variety of activities. Spelling tests will be due every Friday morning.

We will also be reading a class novel together. This term we will be reading '**The Secret Garden**' written by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Mary Lennox is a sickly and unloved 10-year-old girl, born in India to wealthy British parents who never wanted her and make an effort to ignore the girl. She is cared for by servants, who allow her to become a spoiled, aggressive, and selfish child.



After a cholera epidemic kills her parents and the servants, Mary is discovered alive but alone in the empty house. She is sent to Yorkshire, in England, to live with Archibald Craven, a wealthy uncle whom she has never met, at his isolated house, Misselthwaite Manor.

Maths

In Mathematics this term our key skills will cover a range of different content areas from the number strand including;

- Multiplication
- Division

- Time
- 2D shapes
- 3D shapes
- Place value
- Calculators



On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Maths lessons will focus on key skills. On Tuesday and Friday students will participate in The Big Ideas in Number program.

Design and Technology

This term, we will focus on cyber safety and technologies through time. Students will investigate the progression of technologies over time.

Science

This term, we will be exploring Seasons and Eclipses. We will focus on how the relative positions of the Earth, Sun and Moon



affect phenomena on Earth. Students will identify questions that can be investigated scientifically and we will draw on evidence to support our conclusions. They will summarise data from different sources, describe trends and refer to the quality of their data when suggesting improvements to their methods. Some lessons will also focus on developing skills to support students to communicate their ideas, methods and findings using scientific language and appropriate representations .

Art

This term in visual arts students will participate in activities that explore Lunar Art (using watercolours). Students will also have the opportunity to analyse and create artwork based on the works of African artists.



Humanities and Social Sciences—HASS

This term in history students will be looking at ‘What is Justice’. The Australian curriculum provides a study of the key features of Australia’s system of government and explores how this system aims to protect all Australian. Students will further explore what principles of justice help to protect the individual’s rights to justice in Australia’s system of law and how Australia’s legal system aims to provide justice.

Health and Wellbeing

In Health we will be working through the Bounce

Back and Gr8 People programs to recap and further develop ideas around being resilient people with a growth mindset. As new friendships form students will be encouraged through these lessons to develop skills in being a good friend and being tolerant of others. We will revisit our schools site bullying plan and cover expectations around supporting one another.

Kind Regards,
Paige Elliott

Music with Drama with Mr Luke

In the Arts this term students will start by participating in a series of Drama workshops focusing on performance skills including improvisation, mime, tableaux and scripted work. There is a strong emphasis team work, collaboration, resilience and problem solving skills. It’s going to be a lot of fun!

Health and PE with Mr Cuconits

I am extremely excited to continue working at Parafield Gardens R-7 School this year. I look forward to working with all students during 2019. In term 1 students will learn about the dangers and effects of the sun and gain a greater understanding surrounding the Sun Smart program. Students will also be involved in exploring the concept of safety and keeping safe, as well as taking an in depth look at the health benefits of physical activity. The term 1 Physical Education component involves the following: Athletics , Cricket

AUSLAN with Ms Krohn

Language Other Than English – Australian Sign Language is the recognised visual language of the Deaf community. During First Term the Yr 3-7 students will be reviewing basic greetings, numbers and colours, and expanding Auslan vocabulary and grammar features through various class related topics.

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Permission Slip

During the course of the year, through our curriculum studies, we occasionally watch videos and documentaries. Some of the ratings will be P.G. Please indicate if you give permission for your child to watch these videos.

I do/ do not give permission for my child to watch PG rated videos in Room 31 during 2019.
Parent/Caregiver’s

Name _____

Signature _____