



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Room 34 Newsletter

Term 1 2019



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to term 1 2019, we hope you have had an enjoyable break and holiday season! Term one holds some very important and exciting learning opportunities for your child, with a large focus being on classroom structure, routine and expectations. This year room 34 a & b will run as one collective learning unit which will provide both challenges and new experiences for both students and teachers alike.

Room 34 will also be the first class at Parafield Gardens to trial flexible seating this year. With this comes great responsibility and expectations for our students, as well as some changes. We ask that students only bring one regular sized pencil case with them to school, as table space and storage space is limited with our new seating arrangement.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is extremely important for your child to arrive to school on time each day. If your child is late to arrive, they must go to the front office to sign themselves in. You will otherwise receive an SMS that your child is absent and you will need to respond as soon as possible. Acceptable absences are family or illness. If travelling you will need an exemption.

Absentee explanations are a parent/caregivers legal responsibility not your child's. I prefer that absences are phoned in that day between 7:30am and 8:20am.



Expectations

In order for students to be successful they will need to reflect on the school's code of conduct:

*Follow instructions given by staff
Work and play safely
Care for property
Share and include others*

We encourage the students to approach either classroom teacher and other school staff themselves where possible, regarding any issues that they might have in order to develop their own set of problem solving strategies. However, we understand that sometimes students need that bit of extra parental support. The leadership team is also available to students and families to discuss any matters further.

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

Thursday 14th February
School Crossing Training for Year 5-7 students

Tuesday 26th February
No Pen Day

Monday 11th March
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

Tuesday 19th and Thursday 28th March
Year 6/7 Aquatics

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
with early dismissal at 2:00pm



Remember

- ◆ Students wear hats all year round!
- ◆ Bring a drink bottle
- ◆ Borrowing and returns from The Hive will now be from 8:15-8:50am.

Literacy

Students will complete a literature study as we read through the book "So much to tell you". These lessons provide an excellent teaching opportunity for context clues and developing a strong understanding of comprehension strategies.

Along with our literature study, students will be using the *Brightpath* program, as well as *Seven Steps to Writing* to develop their narrative and persuasive writing skills. Targeted literacy rotation activities will take place 3 times a week in order to continue to develop various vocabulary and comprehension skills.



Numeracy

Term 1's concepts will be explored through group and individual problem solving, explicit teaching, *Natural Maths* methods and rehearsal.

Our focus will be on:

- * number concepts
- * problem solving
- * place value

Throughout Term 1, rooms 34 a & b will be participating in a streamed maths program that will be working with two target groups. This will allow students the opportunity to work individually and in small groups with students of similar ability, while also providing opportunities for extension.



HASS

History will see students exploring the path to Federation, focusing on key moments and people throughout Australian history. Strong connections will be made to Civics and Citizenship learning as we explore democratic decision making. With the Federal election fast approaching, our class will be engaging with political material to gain a better understanding of the levels of government and how they are formed.



Science/STEM

Term 1 will focus on Biological Science, investigating both the behavioural and structural adaptations of plants, animals and their habitats. Students will have the opportunities to work both independently and in groups to investigate

various possibilities surrounding the theme of 'survival'. Within this learning experience, technology links will be made, working with the *Makers Empire* software and 3D printing.

The Arts with Mr Luke

As well as exploring one point perspective art, students will participate in weekly specialist art lessons, focusing on both music and drama techniques.



Health and PE with Mr Cuconits and Mrs Ryan

In term 1 students will learn about the dangers and effects of the sun and gain a greater understanding surrounding the Sun Smart program.

The term 1 Physical Education component involves the following:

- Introductory / getting to know you session aimed at making all students more comfortable with their peers and environment.
- Fundamental movement skills
- Cricket – The following skills will be practised and developed over a 5 week unit; Catching, throwing, batting, bowling. Students will also learn the rules of the game and how to score.

Term 1 will also consist of a lunchtime sporting competition for year 4-7 students. Basketball has been chosen due to its popularity and teams will play every Wednesday in the Hall.

Auslan - Mrs Krohn and Ms 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.

If you have any queries or concerns please feel free to get in contact with us.

Regards,
Bekk Resili & Annie Sobey

