



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Room 9 Newsletter

Term 1 2019



Dear Families,

Welcome to Room 9, 2019.

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Rebekah Cohen and I shall be teaching your child alongside Miss Bre and Miss Kim.

This year we welcome two new students to Room 9. Terrence from Elizabeth South Primary School and Lillynah from East Torrens Primary School. It has been fantastic to see already how our new students have been welcomed by other students in the classroom.

Communication with parents I value as important to the success of my students. No one knows your child better than you do. As a parent, your perception and understanding of the students is a valuable resource. The more I know and understand about your child, the more effective I can be as their teacher.

I would appreciate your participation in a 'parent homework assignment' that will be of great value to me. Sometime in the next week please write me a letter introducing your child. You may want to include a brief biography, problems, special abilities, fears, strengths and weaknesses. Include any information that you want me to keep in mind while I work with your child.

Soon I will be working with your child to develop learning goals for the year and I would greatly appreciate your ideas. I will be contacting each of you to organise meetings to review your child's NEP and discuss how they are settling in.

Please be aware that parents and carers are required to wait in the office if picking their child up early from school. A message will be sent to the child's class requesting for them to come to the office. I'd further like to request that if your child will be arriving late, to please notify myself if possible and they will need to collect a late pass from the office. If your child is absent and we have not heard from you by 10:00am you will receive an SMS asking for a response.

We are encouraging independence in our classroom this year and I ask that unless you wish to speak with me, please allow your child to walk to class independently to assist our routine.

A reminder that it is an expectation that hats are worn outside at all times. If you could please assist your child to locate their hat that would be great.

Swimming lessons will be commencing as of Week 2. You will receive the swimming forms to be filled out shortly. We would appreciate the return of swimming documentation and accompanying payment as soon as possible.

If you ever have any concerns please do feel free to phone or email me and I shall respond to you as soon as I can.

Kind regards,

Rebekah Cohen

**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**

**Friday 15th February
Year 7 Big Day In**

**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**

Term 1– 2019 Overview

The first two weeks of Term 1 we will spend creating a set of class rules, reviewing class procedures and expectations. We will be implementing *The Zones of Regulation* within our classroom as a self awareness and regulation program. The zones involve four tiers; blue represents slow, green as ready to go, yellow is too fast and red demonstrates a need to stop and have a break.

Once we have settled into the classroom we will begin our routine. Students will each have varying programs based on their personal goals to promote their success and development.



Literacy

The literacy program throughout the year will be highly individualised to students developing needs. There will be a strong emphasis on giving students intensive support to develop their reading, writing, talking and comprehension skills. Elements of the program include:

- Jolly Phonics/Jolly Grammar
- systematic and sequential Phonics
- Oxford sight word list
- individual, shared and guided reading
- spelling and handwriting
- vocabulary building
- oral language development

Mathematics

At Parafield Gardens we have adopted a whole school approach to learning maths through the *Big Ideas in Number* program. This encourages students to solve maths problems using a variety of strategies and builds strong foundations in trusting the count and understanding place value.

Your child will have a personalised program consisting of 1:1, small group and independent learning activities based on their developmental goals and progress.

Science:

In Science this Term we will be investigating living things and how they depend on each other and their environments to survive. We will be learning about animals' adaptations to their habitats and the effects of rubbish on their life styles.

This will transition into next Term's learning on Rubbish and Sustainability.

Design and Technology:

In Room 9 we will be utilising technology where it benefits and increases learning potential and growth. During the term students will have access to various technologies and programs to support the achievement of their learning goals. The program may include:

- Studyladder
- use of ipads and laptop in the classroom
- model making using a variety of materials

- use of literacy and numeracy software in the classroom
- cooking
- programming using Beebots and Spheros

HASS

This Term we will be reviewing our family history. We will be encouraging our students to find out more about their families and pasts. Your child will come home with questions at times to assist their learning. We encourage that you have conversations with your child and assist them in answering any questions that they may have.

Auslan

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.

Christine Krohn - AUSLAN Specialist Teacher

Music

This term in Music, the class will focus on music notation and theory. This will enable them to successfully play tuned instruments such as xylophones, glockenspiels, and boomwhackers. They will compose their own musical pieces using these instruments and will perform these to their peers. They will also continue to sing various new songs and to revise some old favourites!

In Drama the class will focus on theatre sports games, tableaux and improvisations. They will be given the opportunity to work collaboratively in groups. They will perform in front of their peers and will focus on evaluating each other's performance.

Selena Britz - Specialist Music/Drama Teacher

PE and Health

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 an Introductory/getting to know you session aimed at making all students more comfortable with their peers and environment, fundamental movement skills and 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.

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

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.

**Matthew Cuconits and Stephanie Ryan
Health/PE specialist Teachers**