



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Room 7 Newsletter

Term 1 2020



Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2020 school year. My name is Katrice White and I will be your child's teacher this year, along with Stacey Miller who will be the classroom teacher on Wednesdays. We both look forward to getting to know you as we work together supporting your child's development and education this year. This newsletter contains a lot of information regarding curriculum, communication and general classroom routines, so please hold onto it to refer back to throughout the term as needed.

As you would be aware, our school is recognised as a United Nations Peace School. This means that the values of peace with ourselves, peace with each other and peace with our environment are at the core of what we do. These ideas are promoted through our school values of 'working together' and 'making good choices'. As a class, we have thought about and discussed what this means for our classroom, and together have created a Code of Conduct for Room 7. We will support and encourage your child to make good choices and to develop a positive attitude towards themselves, others and their learning environment. The school has a behaviour management procedure which will be followed when students are disruptive to their own or others' learning, or if they make choices which put themselves or others in danger.

At Parafield Gardens R-7 we have a learning culture that values the achievement of personal excellence. One way in which we support students with this is through promoting a growth mindset and goal setting. Throughout the term we will have rich learning conversations with your child and assist them in setting relevant and achievable learning goals. I encourage you to talk with your child about the strategies they will use to achieve their goals, and check in with them regularly to see how they are coming along.

Homework

At Parafield Gardens R-7 we strive to include parents and caregivers wholly in the academic development of their children. Providing families with the opportunity to work together and supporting their child in completing tasks at home assists in ensuring this connection occurs. In Year 3, your child is expected to do 20 minutes of homework each school day. This is comprised of 10 minutes of reading and 10 minutes of set homework.

Each day your child will bring home a levelled reader or novel. Listening to your child read out loud is a wonderful way to support their reading development. Whatever stage of reading your child is at, they will come across unfamiliar words and ideas. You can help them by encouraging them to sound out words they get stuck on. Ask them to look for parts of the word that they do know and then have a go. If they are unsure about the meaning of a word, help them by thinking of different words that could fit and talking about what the book is about. Please make sure you keep a record of what your child has read in their Home Reading Journal.

DIARY DATES

**THIS TERM ASSEMBLIES
WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY OF WEEKS
2, 4, 6, 8, 11
at 9:00am in the Hall**

**Tuesday 11th February
Acquaintance Night
Channel 9 Weather Report**

**Tuesday 25th February
No Pen Day**

**Monday 9th March
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday**

**TUESDAY 10TH MARCH
PUPIL FREE DAY**

**Saturday 21st March
Harmony Day**

**Monday 23rd March
NAPLAN Practice Test**

**Monday 30th March - Friday
3rd April
Interview Week**

**Wednesday 8th April
Casual Day with gold coin
donation**

**Thursday 9th April
Last Day of Term 1 with
Early Dismissal**

**Friday 10th April
Good Friday**

The set homework tasks will be checked every Friday and a new homework matrix will be sent home on a fortnightly basis. It is not necessary for your child to complete every task on the matrix, but please encourage them to choose tasks which interest and challenge them. This time is a great opportunity to engage with your child's learning and enrich their understanding through conversations around your own experiences with topics covered.

Curriculum

English

This term we will have a particular focus on the narrative and persuasive genres as we explore the structure and organisation of these text types. Students will write an assessment piece on each of these genres this term which will be scored using the Brightpath scale. This is a school-wide assessment which is administered twice per year and which enables teachers and students to work together to set goals and work towards writing improvement. We will have a strong focus on sentence structure as well as phonological awareness throughout the year, which will be incorporated throughout our English program. Students will also extend their skills in reading, oral language, handwriting, spelling and grammar.



Maths

The mathematics curriculum incorporates three strands: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. We will be starting off with a strong focus on number, and will use the *Big Ideas in Number* program to support this. This is a school-wide approach used to target students at their level and promote and develop their skills in number in order for them to progress with their number sense and skills. We will build on this number sense through developing an understanding of *Natural Maths* strategies which are a range of skills and strategies that support students in problem solving with number. These skills will be put into action through **STAR** problem solving lessons. Students will *Sort out, Think about, Action and Reflect* on a range of mathematical problems which will embed their skills in number.

Science and Technology

In term 1 the students will be working with Stacey Miller and our STEM facilitator, Nina Ostrun, in the Hive as part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.

"The purpose of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation is to introduce pleasurable food education to children during their learning years, in order to form positive food habits for life."

<https://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/>

Students will have the opportunity to tend to the garden, harvest produce and then use this to cook delicious meals in our kitchen.



In Science we will be focusing on the area of Biological science and investigate the difference between living and non-living things. We will make a connection to our garden by looking at what types of living things are required to help support our garden to grow.



Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

This subject area provides a lot of opportunities for the development of skills in questioning, researching, analysing, evaluating and communicating, which are all skills necessary for becoming global citizens. Students will start off the year exploring what it means to be part of a democratic society, drawing on familiar contexts and personal experiences of fair play, different points of view, rules and consequences and decision making. Following this, we will explore significant places within Australia. Students will develop an understanding of the similarities and differences between places within and outside Australia through a study of their environmental and human characteristics.

Visual Art

This term we will link our visual art with our HASS and Science learning. We will explore the work of Australian artist Pete Cromer who creates exquisite pieces using mixed media including paint and collage. We will explore a range of techniques and elements to create our own masterpieces.

Health and PE - Matt Cuconits

My name is Matthew Cuconits and I am extremely excited to continue working at Parafield Gardens R-7 School this year. I look forward to working with all students during 2020. 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, as well as taking an in depth look at the health benefits of physical activity.



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
- athletics – Students will learn a variety of track and field events including high jump, long jump, shot put, discus, sprints, 800m run and relays. They will also have the opportunity to try out for the SAPSASA athletics team.
- Tee-ball – The following skills will be practised and developed over a 5 week unit; Catching, throwing, batting and pitching. Students will also learn the rules of the game and how to score.

Music and Drama — Georgia 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.



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.

This year in music and drama I will be using Class Dojo with students and to communicate to families. You will soon receive an email to join the class. If you have any problems at all, please feel free to come and speak with me in Room 22.

AUSLAN — Christine Krohn

Language Other Than English – Australian Sign Language is the recognised visual language of the Deaf community. During first term the Yr 2-4 students will be reviewing greetings, including recognising and fingerspelling own name, 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 and class interactions using the target language.

Working Together

At Parafield Gardens R-7 we have an ethos of working together. These values underpin our daily routines and expectations. In addition to classroom routines and responsibilities, each class within the school take on a responsibility for the year which allow students to gain a sense of contribution to our school community. This year, students in rooms 7

and 10 will be responsible for setting up the eating area next to the canteen each day.

Throughout the year we will also team up with the reception students in room 5 for our Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) activities. Your child will have opportunities to develop valuable leadership skills as they support the younger students with reading, and participate in other activities throughout the year.

Remember, as part of our Sun Safe policy, hats are required to be worn outside all year. Please ensure your child's hat and other belongings are named to ensure they can be easily returned if misplaced. Unnamed hats and jumpers will be placed in lost property.

We look forward to a wonderful year with your child in Room 7.

Kind regards
Katrice White and Stacey Miller
Classroom teachers



Katrice White

Monday
Tuesday
Thursday
Friday



Stacey Miller

Wednesday