

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome students and parents of Room 26b to the 2020 school year! My name is Karl Ebert and I am incredibly excited to be teaching your children for the year. This year, Room 26b will be working collaboratively with Mr. Liemareff and Room 26a.

I trust that you all had a wonderful break over the holidays and enjoyed the time spent with your families, friends and loved ones. I hope the students are well rested and ready for an enjoyable and rewarding year ahead. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work with both you and your child this year.

A big thank you to the parents and caregivers who have introduced themselves during drop-offs and pick-ups. I have enjoyed meeting you and look forward to establishing steady communication with families. If you haven't had the chance to pop in and say hello, please do feel welcome. I am happy to answer any questions or hear your concerns via email or by phone if you are unable to visit in person due to family or work commitments. Acquaintance Night will be held on **Tuesday 11th February** this year and I encourage you to come and see your child's classroom and meet with myself and other members of our teaching staff.

I am really looking forward to undertaking an invigorating and interactive learning program to provide deep understanding in all learning areas with the students in Room 26b.

*"Success is the sum of small efforts,
repeated day in and day out"*

It is my goal for the students to acknowledge and embrace their own individual, unique skills as well as further their learning in the areas in need of improvement. This is optimised through parent, teacher and student **communication**, and is crucial in maintaining an orderly and productive learning environment.

If you have any queries or questions please don't hesitate to make a time to come in to have a chat. 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 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 to students and families to discuss any matters further.

Diaries

As of Week 1 Diaries will be used to record homework and maintain a high level of communication between the teacher and family. Any concerns or important information can be written in the diary. Students are expected to write their homework in their diaries every afternoon before they go home and have them signed by their parent/caregiver every Friday.



This term assemblies are held on Thursdays at 9am in the Hall in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 11

Week 3

Tuesday 11th February
Acquaintance Night, AGM and Channel 9 weather crossover
Friday 14th February
SAPOL Crossing Training

Week 5

Tuesday 25th February
No Pen Day

Week 7

Monday 9th March
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

Tuesday 10th March
Pupil Free Day

Week 8

Saturday 21st March
Harmony Day

Week 10

Monday 30th March - Friday 3rd April
Parent Teacher Interviews

Week 11

Wednesday 8th April
Casual Day
with gold coin donation

Thursday 9th April
Last day of Term 1
Early dismissal at 2pm

Homework & Reading

Every Monday students will receive their Homework contracts. The contracts will focus on various Literacy and Numeracy concepts. Students should also spend 15 to 20 minutes reading aloud to an adult on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Reading aloud is imperative to developing fluency and increasing vocabulary. Furthermore, there will be a signature required to show that the student has completed their reading and this will be checked on the Friday.

Parent Help

Throughout the year there will be opportunities for parents to be involved in class programmes, such as listening to children read, assisting with supervision on excursions, and joining us on special days, eg Harmony Day, Sports Day, Science Fair etc. If you would like to become a volunteer at our school, please enquire at the Front Office.

*“Work together,
Think together,
Act together.”*

Attendance

Children need to be in classes by 8.40am, with the first bell ringing at 8:35. If they are late they will need to go to the front office to collect a late pass which they give to their class teacher. Parents will receive an SMS if their child is not at school by 10:00am. Please inform the school via text, phone call or letter if your child is absent. Attendance records are kept for every student. Teachers are accountable for their students' welfare each day, so we need to know if your child is sick, or at home because of family reasons. **Unexplained absenteeism** is followed up by the school, due to concerns for students' safety and the fact that important learning time is missed. Thank you for your support in this matter.

PAL Class

Our class will be working closely with Room 2 to support student academic development, as well as their social and emotional wellbeing. Room 26b students will be participating in buddy reading, fitness lessons and partner activities to promote collaborative learning and peer mentoring.



Learning Areas of Study

Mathematics

The class will engage in Mathematics daily. Students will engage in inquiry based learning as well as explicit teaching on various Math's topics PGR-7 is continuing with our focus on game based, hands-on number skill and fluency

activities. These will be incorporated weekly into our class schedule.

The overarching focus for Term 1 is number and place value however we will also be studying fractions and decimals, followed by a unit on time. The students have already begun pre-assessment tasks in these areas. This data will be used to ensure that your child's leaning needs are recognised and catered for.



English

Throughout the year students will participate in daily reading routines to promote comprehension and fluency. The key strategies we will be focusing on are *inferring*, *predicting*, *visualising*, *questioning* and *summarising*. As a class we will be reading the novel "Don't Pat The Wombat" by Elizabeth Honey.

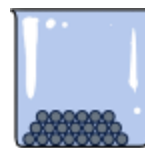
During Term 1 we will be concentrating on narrative and persuasive text types. We will be working hard to increase students' understanding of punctuation and grammar, as well as peer and self-editing. All students will have the opportunity to create, publish and share their own stories with a range of audiences.

In addition to this, students will complete their weekly, individualised spelling contracts with emphasis on increasing vocabulary and word knowledge.

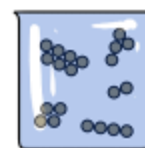
Science

This term students will be looking into the chemical science strand, examining the various states of matter. Through exploration they will be answering questions including:

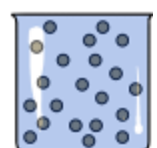
- What is the difference between a solid liquid and gas?
- Can the states of matter be changed?
- Can we mix different states of matter?



SOLID



LIQUID



GAS

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

During HASS lessons students will develop skills on how to research using a variety of resources within the classroom. They will be involved in locating primary and secondary sources of information to answer questions that they have formulated in small groups. These skills will then allow the students to start their inquiry of Australia focusing on its geographical and environmental features.

Physical Education with Matthew 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.



Term 1 will also consist of a lunchtime sporting competition for year 5-7 students. Basketball has been chosen due to its popularity and teams will play every Wednesday in the Hall.

Music & Drama with Belinda Mentha

This term in music students will read, write and compose rhythms using ta, titi, za and tika tika and will learn the technical names for these notes. They will explore meter and how this effects the music. Students will learn about the pentatonic scale and use this to create simple compositions for xylophone. 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.



AUSLAN with Kylie 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 greetings, including self introductions, cultural norms 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, written and signed presentations and class interactions using the target language.



Kind Regards,

Karl Ebert



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 26 during 2019.

Student's Name:

Parent/Caregiver's Name:

Parent/Caregiver Signature:

Date: _____