



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Room 9 Newsletter

Term 1 2021



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Room 9, 2021.

This year we welcome five new students to Room 9. Julian, Bentley, Cooper, Jeff and Matthew. It has been fantastic to see already how our new students have been welcomed by the other students in Room 9 and I am excited to see how their friendships grow across the year.

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 my students is a valuable resource. The more I know and understand about your child, the more effective I can be as their teacher. Please communicate with me as you see a need across the year so that I may be as effective as I can in my role and cater for your child's needs. Best points of contact for myself are our Class Dojo portal, which you shall receive a connection pack for shortly, or email.

In previous years Room 9 has developed and run a life skills program called 'Break Time With Room 9'. The school has been fantastic in supporting this and so far we have managed to raise enough funds to purchase the students aprons with their own program logo. This program is designed to develop students social skills and life skills by running a regular café for staff. We are hoping that with restrictions easing we shall be able to re-implement this soon. Please note, that when cafes are run we shall advertise for students within Room 9 to be able to purchase an item. Moneys are due prior if you wish for your child to enjoy a treat from the café program.

This year we are further implementing the One Plan learning plans within our programming. Please if your child has any up and coming appointments or has had any over the holidays, make sure that you have provided the school with any documentation or assessments that we need to be aware of for their learning and development. Documentation of assessments is important for our ability to best support your child in class or with additional funded support we can apply for.

A reminder that the bell goes at 8:35am each morning to signal that your child needs to move to their classroom. The second bell signals at 8:45am indicating that all children should be in their rooms. At this time, no parents are permitted within the school without an appointment. If your child arrives after 8:45am, they will need a late pass from the office. Please if you are walking your child to Room 9, wait outside of the classroom if you are wishing to see a staff member. Please bare in mind that my priority within school hours is the duty of care of the students. Baring this in mind, please schedule a meeting with me if you have anything you need to discuss.

If your child is away from school for any reason, it is your responsibility to contact the school or myself to notify us of this for attendance purposes. You may call the school, or if easier message myself on Dojo and I will fix this for you. If you do know of any appointments in advance, please notify myself as you can and I can mark this for you.

A reminder that school finishes at 2:15pm on a Monday and 3pm the remainder of the week. Your child's attendance at school is vital for their learning. Early pick-ups, late arrivals and missed days greatly effect their development. Your child needs consistency for their best opportunity at having success. If you have any concerns about getting your child to school, please meet with me directly.

What's on this term

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

Diary dates:

Week 3

Monday 8th February
Acquaintance Night
Governing Council AGM

Week 5

Tuesday 23rd February
No Pen Day

Week 8

Monday 8th March
Adelaide Cup - Public Holiday

Saturday 21st March
Harmony Day

Week 10

**Monday 29th March -
Thursday 1st April**
3 Way Learning Conversations

Friday 2nd April
Good Friday - Public Holiday

Week 11

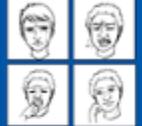
Monday 5th April
Easter Monday - Public Holiday

Wednesday 7th April
Casual Day
with gold coin donation

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

Term 1 2021 Overview

The ZONES of Regulation®

			
BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control

For those of you new to Room 9, we use the Zones of Regulation program to teach our students to identify their needs and correctly meet these using chosen strategies and tools. This program teaches your child to be in control of their needs and feelings and to cater for these throughout their daily lives. Soon I will be inviting you into our classroom where I can run you through an overview of the program and provide you with resources for home. As I have mentioned, consistency is key to your child's success and support and consistency in language at home will further support this.

Literacy and Numeracy

As you may be aware, each of the students in Room 9 are significantly different in all ways. We respect this and work with all students exactly where they are at. This means, for Mathematics and English we will map the learning to your child so that they are engaging with learning at their level so that they may have success. We will review your child's One Plan with you to track their goals over the year and carefully monitor any learning movements across the year to maximise our effectiveness as a staff. This year we will be including a focus on measurement, inclusive of time and money as our investigation area. In English, we will be using Dr Seuss as our influence as we explore rhyme, phonics and sentence structure.

Science

In Science this year we shall be exploring dinosaurs. We are excited to hopefully be attending some excursions to the museum to see some large dinosaur bones, as well as becoming our own archaeologist's by searching for and making fossils in the classroom. We are hoping our students will enjoy this area of learning.



Design and Technology

Over the course of the year we will be using a range of technologies such as; QR codes, 3D printers, Makers Empire, laptops, iPads and more to further support and enhance your child's learning as required.

HASS

To link in with our Science focus, we will be investigating the history of Dinosaurs and areas our students believe they may have once roamed. We find student driven learning to be a great success in building curiosity in students to further development their commitment to learning.

Music/Drama with Mrs Georgia Thomson

This term in music students will feel and show the beat of songs. They will practise reading and writing rhythms using ta, titi and za. Students will gain confidence when singing solo and perform dances using different levels, direction, shape and tempo. Later in the term students will be visited by Jon Madin, a composer who will work with students to create music using his funky instruments.

In drama, students will use facial expression, body language and gesture to become characters and show their reaction to different situations. They will practise showing differing points of view using tableau and mime.

Health and PE with Mrs Stephanie Ryan

In term 1 students will be exploring a range of factors and behaviours that can influence health, safety and wellbeing. Students will begin with 'getting to know you' games and activities to help them gain familiarity and confidence amongst their peers and environment.

They will study the concept of Growth Mindset, undertake *Growing with Gratitude* exercises, as well as developing skills to manage their emotions, understand the physical and social changes that are occurring for them and examine how the nature of their relationships changes over time.

Students will also study Sun Safety, learning about the dangers and effects of the sun and how to keep themselves safe in line with the Sun Smart Program.

In Physical Education students will refine and further develop a wide range of fundamental movement skills in more complex movement patterns and situations. In Athletics students will participate in various track and field events including shot put, discus, high jump, long jump and running. Striking games, including tee-ball and cricket, will promote both individual growth and positive social skills in students, including team work, sharing, cooperation and communication as well as practising throwing, catching, batting, bowling and fielding skills.

Your child has Health and PE on Thursday and will need a drink bottle of water to keep hydrated, and to wear appropriate sports shoes, clothing and a hat to be able to fully participate in lessons.

Swimming Lessons

In Room 9 we attend weekly swimming lessons at the Elizabeth Aquadome. These swimming lessons can assist with learning vital life and safety skills, as well as therapy and support for students with low muscle tone. Swimming lessons will be commencing as of Week 2 and we would appreciate the return of swimming documentation as soon as possible. A reminder that swimming is a part of the curriculum. Your child needs to come to school prepared with a swimming bag inclusive of bathers and a towel each Wednesday. If they are too unwell to swim then you need to keep your child home. We cannot send a sick child into another classroom. We leave for swimming each Wednesday at 8:45am. We appreciate you assuring that your child is at school prompt and organised on this day.

If you ever have any concerns, please do feel free to email me and I shall respond to you as soon as I can at rebekah.cohen209@schools.sa.edu.au

Kind regards,
Rebekah Cohen