



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Parafield Gardens R-7 School

Room 23

Term 3 2021



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all students and parents/caregivers. Welcome to a new term of learning and exciting opportunities. I like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Laura Gretsas and I will be your child's teacher along with Sarah McKee for the remainder of the year. I have been part of the Parafield Gardens R-7 community for several years and Sarah has had extensive experience in various schools in both Adelaide and Sydney.

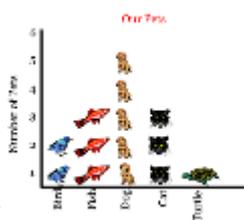
I will be working Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Sarah McKee will be in the classroom on Thursday and Friday.

The class has settled back into routines very quickly and have made both Sarah and I feel very welcome. During the first week we have focused on group norms and expectations of the students inside the classroom, using lots of visuals and charts. This term Room 23 will have weekly **class monitors** who will assist with classroom jobs.

We have been busy over the holidays getting the space ready for the students. We both look forward to getting to know you all as the year progresses.

Maths

In Maths we are learning about measurement, chance and data and financial math. In measurement students will measure and compare the lengths and capacities of pairs of objects using uniform informal units. In chance and data students will describe events using language such as "will happen", "won't happen", "might happen". They collect data by asking questions, draw simple data displays and make simple inferences. In *Big Ideas in Number* students will continue to learn to *Trust the Count* while some will also start learning about *Place Value*.



Geography

Students will learn to describe the weather and seasons. They will investigate the concept that different places have different weather patterns and explore how activities in places change according to the weather.

STEM (Science, Technologies, English and Mathematics)

STEM Learning refers collectively to the disciplines of science, technology and mathematics integrated with engineering as a process to solve problems involving complex thinking. For the next 2 terms the children will be conducting an enquiry project. They will be exploring ways to increase the number of native wildlife to our school grounds. The children will be conducting a wildlife audit, identifying which animals require to survive and thrive and discovering the ways that they can assist rather than disrupt the lives of the wildlife around them. The project will cover the Primary Connection topics of Waterworks and

What's on this term

This term Assemblies will be held on Thursday of weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 at 9:00am in the Hall

Week 2

Monday 26th to Friday 30th July
Wheelenet Incursion

Week 6

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th August
Book Week
Thursday 26th August
Book Week Assembly

Week 7

Thursday 2nd September
SA Water Incursion

Friday 3rd September
Student Free Day

Week 8

Monday 6th September
School Closure

Week 9

Student Led
Learning Conversations

Week 10

Wednesday 22nd September
Casual Day with gold coin donation

Friday 24th September
Last day of Term 3
Early dismissal 2:00pm



Staying Alive. If circumstances permit, the project will be culminating in an excursion to The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary.

English

We will continue working through the Heggerty Phonological Awareness Program daily which encourages students to engage with:

- Rhyming and onset fluency
- Isolating final and medial sounds
- Blending and segmenting sounds
- Adding and deleting phonemes
- Substituting phonemes

This term our spelling program has seen a change. Students spelling contracts have been adapted to provide them with a more individualised approach based on their ability.

Oral Language

We will continue to focus on oral language through poetry, songs and Show and Tell together with our whole school approaches such as 'No Pen Day'.

Close Reading

Children will engage in texts specifically aimed at analysing aspects of text such as: Identifying unfamiliar words, fluency and comprehension.

Guided reading

The students will be provided with opportunities to work in small groups with other students at a similar reading level. During these lessons the teacher will explicitly teach the fundamental skills needed to inference and understand what they are reading.

Grammar

We will continue with our daily Jolly Grammar lessons which will include dictation activities. It is an important skill to hold a sentence in their head and then write it down.



Writing

Students will be given opportunities during our handwriting lessons to practise their number and letter formation using a program called Track Trace Copy.

Wellbeing

This term we will be focusing on feeling of being safe at home, school and in the community. We will explore this concept through discussions, stories and other activities.

Technologies

This term students will be using a program called *Typing Tournament* which many students will be

familiar with. Typing Tournament can rewire kids' brains when poor typing habits have taken hold, giving them correct muscle memory and enabling them to type efficiently with the use of all 10 fingers.

Homework

This term the students will continue with their homework tasks with an emphasis on reading. We encourage you to practise **sight words** with your child each night. We would also like to remind parents to fill in their diary after listening to your child read. Students will have the opportunity to change their readers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If they have finished reading their book, we encourage students to read it again and talk to you about the book. Students will also take turns of taking our 'Class Reading Journal' home where they will write a summary on the book they have read that night. Students can write about the characters, setting problem and favourite parts of the books. Students will be given an opportunity to share their book summary with the rest of the class.



Absences

If your child is absent please write the reason in their Communication Book or contact the office. If your child is absent with no explanation an SMS message is sent to you as a reminder as we are required to have this information by the Department for Education.

Fruit Break

Is a set time where students 'refuel' on **fruit** and **vegetables** and 'rehydrate' with water. Students who are not hungry and are well hydrated perform better in the classroom, show increased concentration, and are less likely to be irritable and disruptive. We ask that students could bring a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat during our daily fruit break time.



Music and Drama

This term in Performing Arts we will wrap up our work on dinosaurs and shift our focus to Fairy Tales.



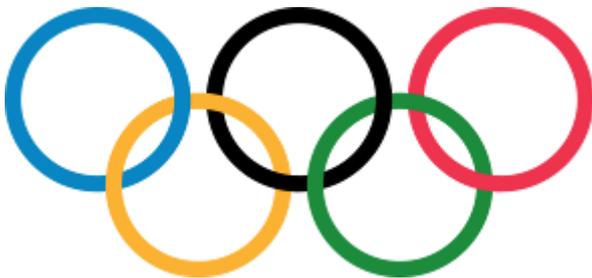
In music, students will continue reading rhythms using ta, titi and za begin to introduce longer notes, ta-a and ta-a-a-a. They will use xylophones to identify pitch direction, use ostinato patterns and play simple melodies.

In drama, students will participate in Process Drama, where the students become "Super Helpers" to solve problems within drama scenarios.

Mrs Thomson - Specialist Music/Drama Teacher

Health and PE

This term we will have a focus on the Olympics.



In health students will cover the following topics safety and keeping safe fro the Child Protection curriculum.

In Physical Education students will continue to work on their fundamental movement skills and ball skills. Later in the term we will start practising for sports day.

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

Ms Mentha - Specialist Health/PE Teacher

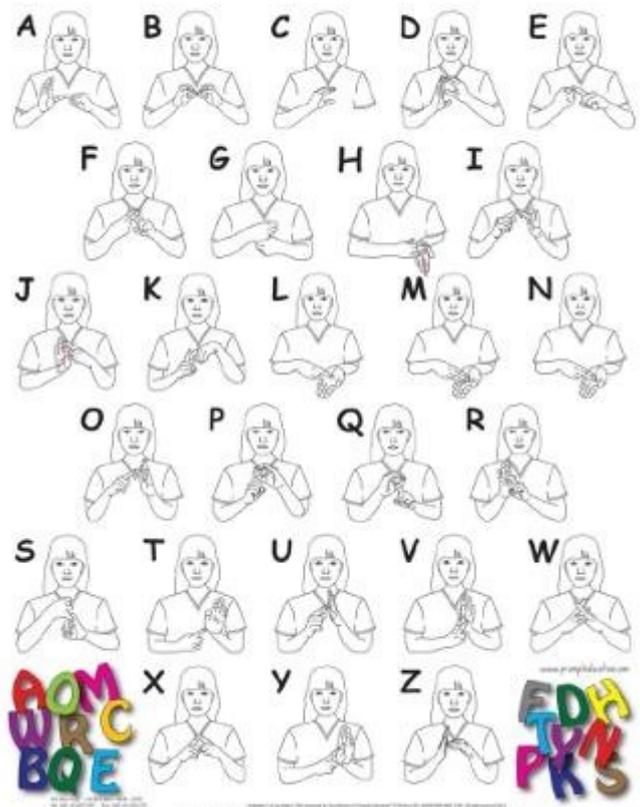
Auslan

In Auslan we focused on being able to play games in silence-only communicating with Auslan to be able to play Uno and go fish and introduced family signs. This term we will be continuing to learn about families and sharing information about our own families to the class and teacher, all in Auslan. We will also be learning about food signs.

Mrs Nelson– Specialist Auslan Teacher



Alphabet



We are looking forward to a busy turn full of learning. If you have any questions please see either myself or Sarah. We can also be contacted through email, Class Dojo or a note in your child's diary.

Kind regards

Laura Gretsas & Sarah McKee