



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education

# Parafield Gardens R-7 School

## Room 4 Newsletter Term 2 2019



### Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Hello and welcome to Term 2. I hope you all had a lovely break and found the time to relax. I had a very busy couple of weeks full of family and friends. I was lucky enough to spend most of the holidays in sunny Queensland spending time with my family. My brother and his fiancé welcomed their second child to the family. Alayah was born in March so I have been waiting excitedly to meet her. I spent most of my time with them taking advantage of the lovely weather. We spent time at the beach, bush walks and on their relaxing deck. It was a perfect break to celebrate the successes of Term 1 while preparing for Term 2.

Term 1 was a very successful term for all members of Learning Community 4. We have all come to know one another, developed new friendships and have become familiar with the school. I could not be more proud of the children and all that they have learned. They have developed a truly beautiful community full of kindness, understanding and support. We also worked with other classes and their teachers all while having a lot of fun. Thank you all for your support and all the extra learning you're encouraging at home.

### Attendance

It is very important that your child is on time each day for school, as some of our most important routines and literacy occurs first thing in the morning. If you are late please ensure that your child has a late pass which is issued by the front office staff. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if the school has not been notified of your child's absence *prior to 10:00am*.

### School Photos

We have school photos on **Wednesday 22nd of May**. If you choose to purchase a copy of your child's photo, packages range from \$26 - \$47. Please send your child in correct school uniform on the day along with the correct money inside the envelope if you have not ordered online.

### Boxes for Construction

It has been wonderful having families bring in their boxes and bits and pieces for Investigative Play. The children are using their engineering skills and creating wonderful things with them. It would be fabulous if you could continue to bring in regular and irregular building materials for the children to use.



We will be continuing our work with the *Jolly Phonics* program throughout this term. To continue this learning all students will be working alongside each other in groups with similar ability and learning styles. Each child has undergone assessments to provide us with information to place your child in the group that best suits their individual needs, knowledge and understanding. These lessons will occur throughout the week. We believe that this approach will ensure that each child continues to learn at a fast rate. We are very excited about this approach and can't wait to watch the students' progress.



This term we will be focusing on books written by Julia Donaldson. Story Tables will be established to engage and explore her texts on a deeper level. This will be a whole class shared experience focusing on reading strategies, comprehension and embedding a

### DIARY DATES

**THIS TERM ASSEMBLIES  
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY  
OF WEEKS 2, 4, 6, 8 AND 10**

**Wednesday 22nd May  
School Photos**

**Wednesday 29th May  
No Pen Day**

**Monday 3rd June  
PUPIL FREE DAY**

**Tuesday 4th June  
Skeleton Dance Crew  
Visiting**

**Monday 10th June  
Public Holiday**

**Wednesday 3rd July  
Casual Day with  
Gold Coin Donation  
Reports Go Home**

**Friday 5th July  
Early dismissal 2:00pm**

**Term 3 Commences  
Monday 22nd July**

*Always have a go!*

Remember **mistakes**  
are  
stepping stones to  
**learning!**

love of reading and stories. We will also be conducting Guided Reading sessions. Students will be working on a set task in groups while I read with a small group or individual students. This practice is a recommendation of Margaret Menner and is designed to focus on the many different reading strategies we use throughout our reading experiences. There will be a strong focus on comprehension this term. We aim to end our Guided Reading sessions by reading a big book together but sometimes the clock beats us.

Your child's reading level will be tested periodically and a certificate will be sent home noting their progress.

## MATHEMATICS

This term the children will continue with **number and algebra**. The children will participate in hands on activities to develop their counting skills. They will continue to learn the 'secret codes'. The secret code is the name given to a range of mental strategies created by Ann Baker (Natural Maths). Each strategy has a code that is used by students when solving problems eg. subitising (immediately recognising how many in a group), rainbow facts (any numbers that add up to 10), doubles (identifying objects which occur in pairs).

The children will also participate in activities involving measurement. They will use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer, heavier or holds more and explain reasoning in everyday language.

The children are working collaboratively with the children from Room 5 during maths rotations. It is great to see their social skills and organisation skills developing.

## OUR WORLD

We will be exploring our world through Geography, History and Science. We will celebrate special days such as Mother's Day and Reconciliation Week. During Science we will investigate the weather and our environment. In HASS we will be exploring Dreaming Stories, Aboriginal culture and places that are special to us. These topics are explored further during Investigative Play.

## MUSIC AND DRAMA (TUESDAY)

This term in music students will feel, show and move to a strong beat. They will begin reading simple rhythms and using them to play instruments and create patterns. Students will explore the musical opposites of fast, slow, loud, soft, high and low and will practise using their singing voices.

In drama, students will participate in process drama where they become Super-Helpers and work together to solve problems. They will use facial expression and movement to become characters and show their reaction to different situations. They will also explore character through varying the pitch, volume and expression of their voice.

In dance they will explore levels, direction and body zones and where to use this in their dance.

**Georgia Yates**

**Specialist Music and Drama Teacher**

## HEALTH & PE (FRIDAY)

In term 2 students will be continuing their focus on keeping healthy, safe and active. Students will learn about nutrition, the human body, naming body parts, describing their functions and the five senses. They will study how their bodies are growing and changing and identify actions that promote health, safety and wellbeing.

The Child Protection Curriculum focus for this term will be on Rights & Responsibilities, Identity and Power in Relationships.

In Physical Education, students will continue developing their fundamental movement skills and learn about dance and body movement exploration. They will participate in various indoor and outdoor activities, with music and equipment, including continuing with ball skill development. We will keep working on team work, sharing, cooperation and communication.

Some students have been coming to PE lessons without appropriate footwear and drink bottles which has prevented them from participating properly. Your child's PE lesson is on Friday so please make sure your child wears sports shoes on this day.

**Stephanie Ryan**

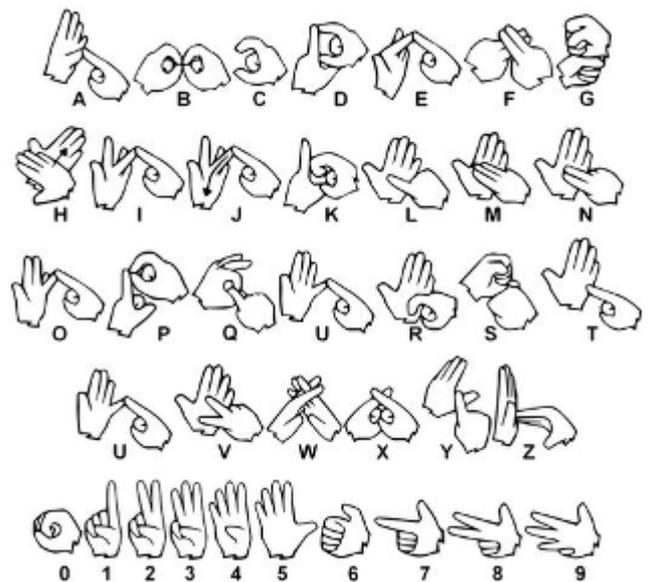
**Specialist Health and PE Teacher**

## AUSLAN (MONDAY)

During Second Term the students will be reviewing and expanding their Auslan vocabulary through sign activities, songs, video and the use of IT equipment. We will cover a "Food" topic exploring foods found in a healthy lunch box. Basic o'clock time will also be covered through sharing daily eating routines.

**Kylie Neilson**

**Specialist AUSLAN Teacher**



**Kind regards**

**Dani Tidswell**