



GRADE 1/2 AREA NEWSLETTER 2019 - TERM 3

Welcome back! We hope all our families have enjoyed a relaxing break and got to do some fun family activities on the holidays. We are looking forward to term 3 and have some great activities and learning planned across the curriculum.

We are looking forward to speaking to families at the **3-Way Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences** on **Thursday 25 July**. Time slips will be sent home prior to this date. The conferences are the ideal opportunity to discuss the great things that your child has achieved so far this year and also to plan for the next stage of your child's learning in all areas of the curriculum.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 25 July - 3-Way Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
- 31 August - Life Education Van arrives at school

FRUIT BREAK



Every day the grade 1/2 classrooms have a fruit break at 12:30. This time is spent listening to a story and happily munching on fruit or vegetables. It provides a break for students to recharge before the next learning activity. Please provide your child with a piece of fruit or some vegetables for this time (carrot sticks, cucumber, mandarin etc). Your child will need **2 pieces of fruit or vegetables** to eat during the day. One for snack and one for fruit break. Thank you to the families that have been providing this for their child.

LITERACY

READING

Students will continue to be involved in small guided reading groups where a common text will be selected. There will be an increased focus on comprehension and understanding the main ideas of the text. We will also focus on predicting ideas from the title of a book. We will practise our prediction skills by looking at wordless picture story books. We will be learning how to identify the setting in different stories. Shared electronic books on the Interactive White Board and big book experiences will also form part of our sessions. Students love listening and reading books as a class and it helps to further develop their fluency and expression.

WRITING

In term 3, students will continue to practise using writing strategies. We will be writing a descriptive piece about our experiences in our favourite spot in the playground, the sandpit. The students will also construct simple and compound sentences using conjunctions. Handwriting will continue to be a focus in the 1/2 area as students work towards developing correct letter and number formation, including writing on the line. This term we will specifically focus on the letters: Kk, Pp, Nn, Mm, Rr, Xx, Zz and Ss.



GRAMMAR focus

- using correct punctuation such as full stops and capital letters
- creating descriptive sentences with a focus on nouns, verbs and adjectives
- learning about prefixes
- learning the sounds: ar, or, er, ir, ur, aw, air and oo.

Home Reading



Please remember to set aside a little time each night to listen to your child read. Students have made amazing progress over the past semester and will continue to improve with reading at home. Just **10 - 15 minutes** each night can make a world of difference to a child's reading development. Each student has been given a home reading record book. Please remember to read the tips at the front of the book and record a brief comment about their reading every night.

ORAL LANGUAGE/SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Our big focus on developing the oral language skills of our students continues. All students will continue to visit the very popular Oral Language Centre for one session each week. Mrs Kassos runs these sessions on Tuesday and Thursday. In addition to OLC, students will be encouraged to make short presentations to the class focussing on speaking clearly, using the appropriate volume, using interesting vocabulary and making eye contact with the audience. We are also teaching the students to give and receive feedback about their presentations.

Oral Language sessions for each class

TUESDAY 1/2 Stephanie/Trent & 1/2 Hannah **THURSDAY** 1/2 Karen O & 1/2 Pesio

NUMERACY

NUMBER

We will begin the term continuing to learn about pattern and number. We will be learning about multiplication and division. Students will become familiar with the different terms used when discussing multiplication, including 'groups of', arrays, piles, bundles, etc. The focus for division will be on 'how many groups' and sharing of items into groups.



MEASUREMENT

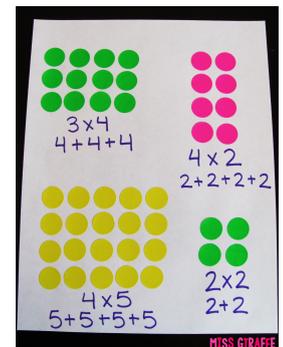
In our measurement sessions we will be investigating mass by weighing objects using balance scales. We will also be learning about 3D objects and their properties.

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY

We will be learning to ask relevant questions to collect data on different topics. The information gathered will then be used to create simple graphs.

MATHLETICS

Most students are familiar with using the Mathletics website. If you would like your child to consolidate or extend their mathematical skills, our school highly recommends this site. Students will already have or will receive a card with their username and password. Please monitor the amount of time spent on the computer, especially on a school night.



INTEGRATED STUDIES

SAFETY

During term 3 students will recognise situations and opportunities to promote their own health, safety and wellbeing. They will examine safety messages and how they relate to health decisions and behaviours and explore actions that help make the classroom a healthy, safe and active place.

Our key inquiry questions will be:

- Who are the people who keep us safe?
- What can we do to keep ourselves safe?
- Where can we go to get help?
- What do we need to keep safe?
- How do we keep safe at home and at school?
- How do we keep safe as a pedestrian?



This will also be our focus of our lessons when the Life Education Van visits in September.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Students will be learning the importance of monitoring their screen time and discuss the importance of using digital technologies responsibly. We will also be participating in tasks related to Cyber Safety.

Sessions in the computer room will focus on developing students' skills in using:

- Microsoft Word – to change the font size, style and colour and typing personal stories
- Microsoft Publisher – make tables to record findings that relate to our Integrated Studies topic
- Powerpoint and Google Slides – to create slideshows for a presentation.

Each grade also has access to a class set of iPads. They have school approved apps installed that can be used to revise learning of common words and blends and Maths games. We are now also learning how to code with the Lightbot Jnr app. We are also learning how to program a Beebot.



We look forward to working with you all to ensure every child in the 1/2 area achieves their personal best - 1/2 team teachers.

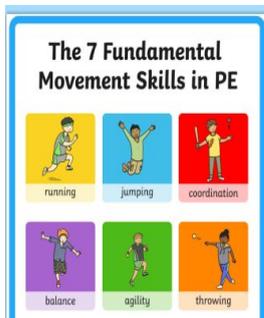
SPECIALIST PROGRAMS



Art – Karren Moncur

The children will recycle two or three boxes into a construction. They will learn to join the boxes and then decorate with coloured paper and paint. The children will play with clay and start to model it into shapes. They will learn to make a pinch pot as a starting point for a sculpture. Finally the children will be printing.

They will draw into paint to create a mono print and will experience the Gelli Plates, these can be painted on and decorated before printing.



Phys Ed – Dean Sharples

In Term 3, the Grade 1/2 students will participate in a 'Movement to Music' unit where they will explore a variety of locomotor and rhythm based activities. They will continue to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising kicking and bouncing which will progress into modified soccer and basketball games. These modified games will introduce students to the concept of teamwork and sportsmanship.

Music – Luis Gonzalez

In term 3, students will be making and writing music using basic forms of music notation. They will learn songs which involve actions and movement. Students will learn the correct way to hold and strum the ukulele and the guitar. They will also learn three different chords as well as some songs that can be played with them to experience playing in a group while staying in time. In Spanish the focus will be food. Students will learn the words for most common meals and simple sentences to order food. They will also learn sentences to introduce themselves, their families and say their own names.
