LALOR EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRADE 1/2 2012 TERM 2 INFORMATION

It seemed as though we had just started Term 1 and then it was over! We are looking forward to another wonderful term’s work. Term 2 is a little longer than Term 1 but we are sure it will go by just as quickly, with all the exciting activities we have planned.

Some of the special events this term include:
- a visit to the Life Education Van (8th – 18th June)
- Grandparents Day/Open Day/Jump Rope for Heart (Thursday 24th May)
- Whole School Circus performance (Monday 25th June)
- Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences (Wednesday 27th June).

HELPING AT HOME
Many parents have asked what they can do to help their child at home. Below are 3 things you can do to help your child increase their learning:
1) Listen to your child read 4-5 times a week, for about 10-15 minutes each night. Ask your child to tell you what the story was about
2) Assist them to learn simple addition and subtraction facts to 20 e.g. 4 + 6 = 10, 15 + 5 = 20, 10 – 7 = 3
3) Ensure children go to bed at a reasonable time – children in grade 1/2 need 10 – 11 hours sleep a night.

IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY! IT’S NOT EVEN GREAT TO BE LATE!
STUDENT ABSENCES and PUNCTUALITY
It is vital for students to attend school every day unless they are ill. So far we have been pleased with the attendance rate amongst the grade 1/2 students but we would like to remind everyone that our attendance goal is for 95% for the whole year. Therefore we need your help to ensure students attend school every day. Also, please make every effort to have your child at school before 9 o’clock to ensure a smooth start to the school day.

If your child is really ill, please either:
- call the office on 9465 4350 or
- send a note to your child’s teacher on the day they return to school.

Blank notes can be found on the Jumbunna most weeks. All you need to do is fill in the blank spaces and return the note to school with your child.

LITERACY
Most literacy sessions will begin with a whole class big book or electronic book experience as this helps to improve the students’ skills in reading aloud fluently and expressively. We have introduced students to recording their reading using a hand-held microphone. Students then listen to the way they read aloud and are given helpful suggestions. 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.
Our writing will focus on **procedural texts** and **poetry**, with some further work on **factual texts** related to the topic of Magnets. For **poetry writing**, students will write different poems related to various foods. For **procedural texts**, students will write simple recipes based on class cooking experiences.

Handwriting will continue to be a major focus in the 1/2 area as students continue to develop accurate letter formation (for the letters T, U, Y, V, W, B, E, O and F) and accurate formation of numbers 0 to 9. We will continue to focus on writing on the line and correct sizing of letters.

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

Thank you to all the parents who have returned their signed consent form allowing their child to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Your child’s teacher will read 30 books from the Challenge list aloud to the class before August. A special certificate from the Premier of Victoria will be given out in Term 4. If you haven’t yet signed a consent form, see your child’s teacher to get a new form.

**NUMERACY**

Our focus for this term will be **addition** and **subtraction**. This will include extending students’ skills in responding quickly to simple addition and subtraction equations, for example 6 + 4, 10 – 3 and 11 + 9. A good knowledge of basic number facts to 20 will assist them to solve longer equations. Simple **money** calculations will be incorporated into addition and subtraction problems. Just a couple of minutes a day will really assist students to refine their basic skills in this area.

Measurement and space lessons will cover:

- **time** - reading digital and analogue clocks
- **data graphing** - collecting and analysing data and presenting the information in a graph
- **mass** – comparing the weight of different objects.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**

We will begin the term with a small unit of work on **Magnets**. Students will investigate which materials will stick to a magnet.

In mid May, we will start our major focus for the term, which is on **Healthy Living**. A visit to the Life Education Van will enhance the topic where students will learn about the importance of looking after their bodies and keeping them healthy.

Class sessions will concentrate on the importance of:

- eating a balanced diet
- getting enough sleep
- exercise
- hygiene e.g. washing our hands after going to the toilet.

Sessions in the computer lab and classroom will focus on developing students’ skills in using:

- **Microsoft Publisher** – for creating posters with tips about staying healthy
- **Kidpix** – for drawing different foods
- **Microsoft Visio** – for creating a healthy living mind map.
Please remember, if you have any concerns about your child’s learning, contact their teacher to arrange a time to chat.

We’re looking forward to another exciting term of learning.

The 1/2 Team
Shona McCulloch, Mrs Kassos, Kristian Carrocci,
Stephanie Chan and Ms Gambaro

SPECIALISTS

ART – Karren Moncur
The children will be starting the term with a painting unit. The children will try wax resist, drawing with candles and crayons to stop the paint from colouring the paper. They will focus on the brush strokes they can use to create different effects. The children will look at the paintings of Vincent Van Gogh and Seurat to learn about this aspect of painting. The children will then explore different materials and how to get unusual effects in a mixed media unit.

MUSIC – Brad Jones
This term, the focus for the grade 1/2 students will be rhythm in music. Students will continue to play a variety of different instruments and will revisit many of the different notes used in music. Students will work both collaboratively and individually whilst furthering their knowledge of these concepts. Students will continue to sing and listen to many different songs from a variety of sources.

PHYS. ED – Lara Arsana
In Term 2, the grade 1/2 students will continue to participate in a range of activities that focus on their Fundamental Motor Skill development. Activities will be based around the skills of the: Catch and Overhand Throw.

Students will also complete a three week unit on Skipping, in preparation for the annual Jump Rope for Heart Day, to be held on Thursday 24th May. They will then finish the term with a Gymnastics unit, exploring different body movements, balances and rotation activities.

TERM 2 SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

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<td>1/2 Shona McCulloch/ Mrs Kassos Room 10</td>
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<td>1/2 Kristian Carrocci Room 11</td>
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<td>1/2 Stephanie Chan Room 12</td>
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