Many thanks to all the parents who were able to attend the 3 Way Conferences in the last week of term 2. It is pleasing to see that the students are taking more responsibility with their learning. Our young learners are becoming quite skilled at setting learning goals and they are becoming very good at self-evaluating. The students were all very proud of the work they had displayed in their portfolio and loved the chance to share it with you.

Please call the school to arrange a time to meet your child’s teacher if you weren’t able to attend your 3 Way Conference. We really want to chat to ALL parents about their child’s progress and how we can ensure their future progress.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 3:
- Friday 27 July – Doctor’s Visit
- Tuesday 31 July – Police Visit
- Tuesday 7 August – Fire Brigade Visit
- Wednesday 8 August – Ambulance Visit
- Thursday 9 August – Multicultural Day
- Wednesday 15 August – Curriculum Day
- Monday 27 August – Book Character Parade
- Wednesday 29 August – Family Maths Night.

STUDENT ABSENCES – IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY!
It is wonderful to see that our message about attending school every day and arriving before 9 o’clock is taken seriously. Please continue to support our goal to improve the overall attendance rate.

Grade 1/2 is a really important stage of your child’s learning. It is a period of great academic growth and it is vital that they don’t miss school. The higher the number of days absent, the harder it is for your child to learn all the things they really need to learn.

Each term we aim to reach a 95% attendance rate. That means no more than 2 days absence for the whole term. We congratulate the students who attained 100% attendance for term 2 and would love to see many more students reach that target in term 3!

HELPING AT HOME
To help your child maximise their learning, you can:
1. listen to your child read 4-5 times a week and talk to them about what they have read
2. assist them to learn their weekly spelling words
3. help your child complete Maths Tasks Cards or other homework tasks
4. encourage them to look at the coins we use to pay for things and hand the money to the shop keepers
5. follow a recipe together and let your child measure out quantities
6. encourage them to read the time on different clocks.
LITERACY
In term 3, students will continue to participate in reading groups based on a common text suitable for their level. We will focus on increasing the students’ comprehension of what they have read through discussion and by providing suitable activities.

Our writing this term will be related to toys and community helpers. Some of the activities students complete will include:
- writing descriptive pieces about favourite toys
- creating posters for missing toys
- writing imaginative stories about toys who come to life
- creating conversations by using speech bubbles for different toys or community helpers
- explaining the need for the police
- writing thank you letters to guest speakers.

Students are making good progress with handwriting and are showing greater awareness of the correct placement of letters on the lines. This term we will continue to focus on the accurate letter formation for the letters not covered so far (H, K, P, N, M, R, X, W, S and Z).

NUMERACY
Our focus for this term will be multiplication, division and money. Students will become familiar with the different terms used when discussing multiplication including groups of, arrays, piles, bundles etc. They will relate multiplication to repeated addition. For example $3 \times 2 = 2 + 2 + 2$. The focus for division will be on ‘sharing’ and on ‘how many groups’. Students will use the repeated subtraction method until there is none left. e.g. $12 \div 4 = 3$, $12 - 4 - 4 - 4 = 0$).

For the money topic, we will concentrate on making amounts in different ways and on calculating money.

Counting beyond 110 by 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s from different starting points will also continue to be a major focus.

Measurement and space lessons will cover:
- area – measuring and comparing the area of different objects
- position – positional language e.g. the dog is under the house
- mapping – using co-ordinates to locate objects on grids
- calendars – focusing on the days and dates within a month and in other months.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
This term we will focus on ‘Community Helpers’ and ‘Toys’.

Our community helpers topic will assist students to:
- identify the different helpers in our community e.g. ambulance, fire, police, doctors etc
- explain the role of different helpers in the community and the services they provide.

As part of this work, students will role-play what to do in an emergency. We ask all parents to help their child to learn their home address and telephone number. Students will be instructed to keep personal details private. Nobody wants bad things to happen to them, but unfortunately, accidents and medical
emergencies do happen to us and to loved ones. We would like our students to know who to contact and to know their address and telephone number, especially when our Ambulance Officers come to visit.

During our toys unit, students will:
- classify the toys based on different categories
- make judgements about which toys are suitable for particular age groups
- identify the things that influence us to buy particular toys.

Sessions in the computer room will focus on developing students’ skills in using:
- **Microsoft Word** – to create tables with grid references to show the location of different objects and calendars
- **Microsoft Publisher** – to create posters for missing toys and personal ID cards, and ‘Who Am I?’ pages for different community helpers.

We’re looking forward to another fantastic 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 making a number of puppets, starting with a shadow puppet. They will be informed of the cultures that make and enjoy shadow puppets. The children will also make a Japanese Doll puppet and a simple Marionette. The children will finish the term making collages, creating their own coloured paper to make a chameleon and creating amusing images by cutting features out of magazines.

**MUSIC – Brad Jones**
In music this term, the grade 1/2 students will be focusing on drama and performance and will also continue their work on music notation. Students will participate in a range of activities that will aim to improve their confidence and performance skills. Students will learn some new aspects of music notation and will continue to play a wide range of instruments.

**PHYS/ED – Lara Arsana**
In Term 3, the Grade 1/2 children will be participating in a Gymnastics unit, where they will learn basic Gymnastics skills and participate in a number of circuit activities. They will be continuing to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising bouncing and progressing into Basketball and they will also participate in a ‘Movement to Music’ unit, that will explore a variety of dance styles.