LALOR EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRADE 1/2 2014 TERM 2 INFORMATION

Term one was a very busy term with testing and activities on how to show our school values of respect, caring, cooperation, honesty and personal best.

The students enjoyed learning about ‘The World Around Us’ and the ‘Starlab’ Incursion was a great success with students learning about the Weather, Sun, Moon and our Solar System.

We are looking forward to another wonderful term’s work with all the exciting activities we have planned.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 2:
- School Photos – 1 May
- Mother’s Day Stall – Thursday 8 May
- 10th Annual Lalor East Art Show – Thursday 22 May
- Curriculum Day – Friday 16 May
- Report Writing Day – Monday 19 May
- Whole School Cybersafety Performance “Saving Lil and Archie’ Tuesday 20 May
- Grandparents’ Day/Open Day/Jump Rope for Heart (Thursday 22 May)
- A visit to the Life Education Van (29 May – 4 June)
- Queen’s Birthday Holiday – Monday 9 June
- Aboriginal Cultural Day – Tuesday 24 June
- Teacher/Parent/Student Interviews – Thursday 26 June
- End of term two – Friday 27 June - dismissal time 1:30 pm

STUDENT ABSENCES
EVERY DAY COUNTS and IT’S NOT GREAT TO BE LATE!
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. Please strive to make sure your child achieves our attendance goal of not missing more than 2 days in term 2. We need your help to ensure students attend school every 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.

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time at 8:50am, so they are ready to begin learning with their class at 9:00am. Arriving at school late on a regular basis has a very detrimental effect on your child’s learning.
**UNNAMED CLOTHING**
Please assist us to reduce the amount of unnamed clothing left at school. To save you money and assist us to return your child’s clothing to them, please write your child’s name clearly with a permanent marker on the label of all clothing that comes to school.

**SCHOOL CORRIDORS**
It is great to see how wonderfully most 1/2 students line up at the start of the day and how they organise themselves by hanging up their own bag and taking out things like their Take Home Books and lunch orders. We would like all students to follow this example because it helps with the students’ development of responsibility.

As a request, we would like parents to cooperate by not entering the building with their child. This will also help to minimise the congestion in the corridor. Also, please organise a meeting spot for home time rather than wait in the corridors. It can be very distracting for the students with people peeking in and talking in the corridors.

**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 improve his/her learning:
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 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.

**LITERACY**
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. Shared electronic books on the Interactive Smartboard and big book experiences will also make up part of our sessions. Students love reading books as a class and it helps to further develop their fluency and expression.

All students will continue to visit the Oral Language Centre for one session each week. Deanna Weiland and Ruthi Lanigan will run the sessions for the 1/2 students on the following days in term two:

**MONDAY**
1/2 I’a

**WEDNESDAY**
1/2 Mrs Herbert and 1/2 Ms D

**THURSDAY**
1/2 Steph and 1/2 Kristian

During the term we will write descriptive texts with the focus on grammar, (adjectives, nouns, similes, alliteration) 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.
Handwriting will continue to be a major focus in the 1/2 area as students continue to develop accurate formation for the numerals 0-9 and the letters Y, U, V, W, B, E, O, F and H. We will continue to focus on writing on the line and the correct sizing of letters.

PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE
The Premiers’ Reading Challenge is on for another year and we would like all students to be part of this very worthwhile task. The Challenge is a state wide activity to encourage children to read more and to read books recommended by others. It does not cost anything but it does require students to have a consent form signed by a parent/guardian. Students in grade 1/2 need to ‘read’ 30 books by August. The teachers will read the books aloud to the class and then the teachers will record the data onto the website.

Putting it simply, students will listen to some wonderful stories and then in term four, students will receive a lovely certificate. If you haven’t yet signed a consent form, please see your child’s teacher to get a new form.

NUMERACY
Our focus for this term will be addition and subtraction. Grade 1s will be solving number sentences to at least 50 and grade 2s to at least 99. We will be 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. Just a couple of minutes a day, will really help your child to become a maths whiz!

We will also focus on identifying and continuing patterns of letters, numbers and shapes.

Measurement lessons will cover:
- **time** - reading digital and analogue clocks
- **calendars** - locating dates and key events in specific months
- **data graphing** - collecting and analysing data and presenting the information as a graph
- **mass** - comparing the weight of different objects.

INTEGRATED STUDIES and COMPUTERS
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
- **Kippax** – for drawing different foods
- **Microsoft Visio** – for creating a healthy living mind map.

**COMPUTERS**

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

- **Microsoft Word** – for typing simple sentences and creating calendars
- **Microsoft Publisher** – for using a Venn diagram template and inserting clipart images to show the differences between olden day and modern school life
- **KidPix** – for drawing images of olden day items and comparing old and new items.

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
Ms D, Mrs Herbert, Stephanie Chan, Kristian Carrocci, Mrs I’a and Leah Williams
SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

ART – Karren Moncur
The children will need a smock in the first weeks of term as they will be painting. They will explore colour and improve their skills with a brush. The children will create a simple marionette, as well as simple stick puppets.

The children will then weave and sew decoration onto strips of burlap to decorate a tree in our school yard. This is called ‘yarn bombing’.

MUSIC – Luis Rios Gonzalez
In term 2, students will continue developing a sense of pitch and rhythm through learning songs that involve actions and movement. They will also be playing different percussion instruments in basic ensembles to experience performing in a group setting. Students will explore music from different cultures and places around the world.

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, Overhand Throw and Vertical Jump.

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 22 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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