Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the 3 Way Conferences in the last week of term 2. The students were very excited about being able to share their portfolios with their parents. We were thrilled with how wonderfully they presented their portfolios and spoke about the progress they had made during the semester.

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.

We would like to welcome back Mrs I’a after having some leave and we would like to thank Leah for acting as her replacement. We are sure we will see her working at our school again.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 3:
- Leigh Hobbs Author Visit (Tuesday 12 August)
- Family Maths Night (Wednesday 20 August)
- Multi-cultural Day (Wednesday 27 August)
- Book Fair (19 – 25 August)
- Father’s Day Stall (Thursday 4 September)
- End of term 3 (Friday 19 September at 1:30pm)

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. We are very concerned about the high number of absences in the Grade 1/2 area. It will be difficult for students to make the expected level of progress if they continue to be away so often. Please strive to make sure your child achieves their attendance goal of not missing more than 2 days in term 3.

The winter season can cause many health issues so please make sure your child rugs up for the cold weather.

If your child is really ill, please either:
- call the office on 9465 4350
- 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 print out a sheet and fill in the blank spaces and return the note to school with your child.

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time at 8:50 am so they are ready to begin learning with their class at 9:00 am. 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 on the label of all clothing that comes to school with a permanent marker. We have a lost property section opposite room 8 with many unnamed windcheaters and jackets. If your child is missing an item, please have a look there.

SCHOOL CORRIDORS
We ask ALL parents to show our value of Cooperation by waiting outside for your child at the end of the day and not in the corridor. It becomes very crowded in the corridors when children are trying to get out of their classrooms, especially if there are adults in the corridor as well. Children need to collect their own bags and walk outside themselves so they can develop their independence.

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 and talk to them about what they have read
2) assist them to learn simple addition and subtraction facts to 20 e.g. 3 + 6 = 9,
   12 + 5 =17, 10 – 7 = 3
3) ensure children go to bed at a reasonable time: children in grade 1/2 need 10 – 11 hours of sleep a night.

MATHLETICS
The Mathletics website is an excellent resource to help your child to consolidate or extend their mathematical skills. The site is child friendly and many students enjoy playing the games after completing the set tasks. Students have been given a card with their password. Please monitor the amount of time spent on the computer, especially on a school 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. Also, students will be learning to paraphrase words and sentences. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Chan</td>
<td>1/2 Mrs Herbert and 1/2 Ms D</td>
<td>1/2 I’a and 1/2 Kristian</td>
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During the term we will continue to write descriptive texts with the focus on using the pre-writing strategies taught such as; alliteration and similes. Our writing this term will be related to PUSH AND PULL. Students will be conducting experiments and recording their observations, with some further work on factual texts.
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 (K, P, N, M, R, X, Z and S). We will continue to focus on writing on the line and the correct sizing of letters.

**PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE**

Many students have registered for the 2014 Premier’s Reading Challenge. This is a state wide activity to encourage children to read more. Students in grade 1/2 need to ‘read’ 30 books by the end of August. We would love all 1/2 students to complete the reading challenge. They’ll get a certificate from the Premier! Many grades are already half way to completing their 30 books.

**NUMERACY**

Our focus for this term will be 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’.

We will continue to develop 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.

**Counting** beyond 120 by 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s from different starting points will also continue to be a major focus. For the grade 2s, they will be expected to recognise and order numbers to at least 1000.

Later in the term we will be doing some work on money. Students will be counting small collections of coins and notes. Families can provide a great opportunity to involve real life experiences with their child by going shopping and calculating simple change. It is always interesting to see money from other countries. It would be great if students could bring money from other countries to school so we can discuss how it is different to Australian money.

Measurement and geometry (space) lessons will cover:

- mapping – give and follow a set of simple directions to find a specific point
- position/coordinates – understanding terms like left, right, behind, in front of
- length & area – estimate, measure and compare objects using informal and basic formal units.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**

Our major focus for this term is on ‘Push and Pull’. Students will gain an understanding of how a push or a pull affects how an object moves or changes shape. The unit will provide students with hands-on, shared experiences on forces that make objects move in the air, on the ground and in the water. The students will also focus on developing a better understanding of their local community and identify their features.

We will also be doing some tasks related to Cyber Safety. Students will be learning the importance of monitoring their screen time and discuss the importance of using computers responsibly.
COMPUTERS
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** – to create a calendar, find pictures, make a table to record findings that relate to our Integrated Studies topic
- **Microsoft Visio** – to produce road maps and mind maps.

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 and Mrs I’a

SPECIALISTS
**ART – Karren Moncur**
The children will model sculptures in clay. They will make a pinch pot and see a coil pot made. The emphasis is on joining the clay correctly. The children will be encouraged to make sculptures of people and animals. The children will also be involved in a textile unit, they will make a finger puppet out of felt and will decorate material with fabric textas.

**MUSIC – Luis Rios Gonzalez**
In term 3, students will explore some forms of basic music notation and the way they are used to create new music. They will continue developing a sense of pitch and rhythm through learning songs that involve actions and movement. They will also be exploring basic music notation, including the music staff, in order to perform melodies on tuned percussion instruments. Additionally, students will continue exploring music from different cultures and places around the world.

**PHYS. ED – Lara Arsana**
In Term 3, the Grade 1/2 children will be continuing to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising kicking which will progress into modified Soccer games and bouncing which will progress into modified Basketball games. The children will end the term with a ‘Movement to Music’ unit that will explore a variety of dance styles.