Introduction

Dear Families

Welcome to U6 and another exciting year of learning! There is 26 students in a composite class of year 1s and year 2s. I am especially looking forward to working with your child. The following is important information on our class procedures and the curriculum content for this term. If you have any questions or comments regarding your child's education please don't hesitate to make an appointment to come and see me.

Maths

Maths is taught at an explicit level through practical and integrated activities that build on previous mathematical knowledge. This year we will be covering mathematical skills and knowledge in the following content strands: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability.

This term students will be focusing on place-value, developing confidence with number sequences (to and from 100 for year 1s and to 1000 for year 2s), partitioning numbers, and solving simple addition and subtraction problems. In addition, we will also be focusing on length, perimeter and area. Students will be estimating, measuring and comparing lengths using informal units. This will be done through a range of hands-on activities with the use of various concrete materials.

To assist with developing problem solving skills and comprehension, students will be given two Maths word problems a week to complete as part of their homework.

Further information regarding Mathematics and the Australian Curriculum is available at the following links:

Year 1 curriculum: http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/mathematics/curriculum/f-10?layout=1#level1

Year 2 curriculum:

English

Each morning students are engaged in a literacy block where reading (shared and guided), writing, phonics, spelling and comprehension is explicitly taught and practised. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of strategies to assist with further developing students' accuracy and fluency and extending their sound and sight word knowledge.

Our focus for writing this term is on the features of recounts and narratives. Students will be explicitly taught the structure of a recount whilst also looking at sentence structure and punctuation. In addition, students will also be reading, deconstructing and comparing fairy tales.
with the opportunity to create oral and written narratives through a variety of independent and group activities.

In spelling our focus will be on the sounds of the alphabet, where students will be introduced to a variety of word families, blends and diagraphs. The class has been divided up into 2 spelling groups to cater for the different ability levels. This term group 1 will be focusing on: 'ch', 'sh', 'th', 'ng', 'ph', 'ck', suffix 's', 'qu' and 'wh' words and group 2 will be focusing on 'ai/ay', 'a_e', long a, 'eigh', y as in 'i', y as in 'e', 'ea', 'ee', 'e_e' and 'ey' words. To assist students with building their vocabulary, spelling words will be given out on Mondays and glued into their homework book to practise at home ready for a spelling test on Fridays.

In addition, students will be engaging in an author study on Pamela Allen where they will be identifying the style and genre and comparing characters and texts.

Further information regarding English and the Australian Curriculum is available at the following links:

Year 1 curriculum:  http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/english/curriculum/f-10?layout=1#level1

Year 2 curriculum:  http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/english/curriculum/f-10?layout=1#level2

Science

In Science this term we will be focusing on Earth and Space Science, where students will be looking at the Earth's resources with a particular focus on water. Students will be exploring how water is used, where it comes from, how it is transferred from its source to point of use and how to conserve and use water responsibly. This unit provides students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of and appreciation for a valuable resource.

U6 students will be working with U4 students as they develop their skills to conduct, investigate, process data, predict and communicate their thinking.

For further information on the Science Curriculum please see the link below:

History / Geography

In History this term our focus is on local history. Students will explore, recognise and appreciate the history of their local area by examining remains of the past and considering why they should be preserved. We will be focusing on the importance of historical sites such as monuments, heritage buildings and landmarks and what significance they represent. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct an interview with parents or grandparents to gain a better understanding of the past by comparing their life to their grandparents' and parents'.

Specialist Areas

This year students will be provided with the following specialist lessons:
Health (with Teresa Marshall on Tuesdays)
Positive Education (with Desy Pantelos on Tuesdays)
Japanese (with Belinda Brenen on Tuesdays & Thursdays)
PE (with Terry Ahern on Wednesdays)
Health:
In term 1 students will be identifying personal health related goals and describing previous personal achievements and the strategies that helped them to realise their goals. Year 1 & 2 students will also be examining health messages and how they relate to health decisions and behaviours, primarily focussing on sun smart.

Positive Education:
This term in the PEARL room our focus will be on Character Strengths in particularly looking at teamwork, gratitude, humour, kindness, self regulation, forgiveness and love.

Japanese:
Through the theme of “Let’s Visit Japan” students will participate in guided group activities such as games, songs and simple tasks, using movement, gestures and pictures to support understanding and convey meaning. They will also participate in shared listening to, viewing and reading of imaginative texts, and respond through singing, chanting, miming, play-acting, drawing, action and movement. Students will learn to recognise and copy some hiragana and a few high-frequency kanji as well as recognise that there are differences in how language is used in different cultural and social contexts, such as ways of greeting and addressing people.

Physical Education (PE):
Terry offers a 45 minute session once a week. The focus for this term is fundamental movement skills and in particular exploring locomotion (throwing, catching, running, skipping etc.). All sessions begin with a warm up and during hot weather, students will be involved in indoor activities such as indoor hockey, gaga ball, and towers.

Morning routines

1. Come in and put your bag on your bag hook.
2. Take out your reader folder and drink bottle.
3. Put your drink bottle in one of the ‘Drink Bottle’ baskets.
4. Put any books you would like return to the library in the ‘Return’ basket.
5. Put your reader folder on the bookshelf next to Miss S’ desk.
6. If you have a note for Miss S put your communication book in the basket on the bookshelf next to Miss S’ desk.
7. Put your lunch order in the lunch order basket at the front of the classroom.
8. If it is your ‘Show and Tell’ day give Miss S your sharing to keep safe in the cupboard.
9. Sign your name off on the interactive whiteboard.
10. Quietly find a spot to read with a parent or a partner

Library Day / Computers

U6 visits the library every Wednesday morning and during this time the class gets the chance to have a browse in the library and also the opportunity to do their borrowing. When your child has finished reading their borrowed books they can place it in our ‘Book Returns’ basket in the classroom so that they may be able to borrow again.

Computer lessons are on Thursdays this term. During these lessons students will continue to practise their typing skills through a variety of games. Students will be using such software programs as Active Inspire, Tux Paint, Kidspiration and Microsoft Word to enhance their work. As part of their ICT lessons students will be collecting, exploring and sorting data, and use digital systems to present the data in the form of pie graphs and column graphs using Microsoft Excel. In addition, students will also have the opportunity to access Mathletics (via the internet) to encourage further development of their mathematical skills.
### Parent Helpers

At Kidman Park Primary we value the support and expertise parents can bring to the classroom. If you have a special skill that you would like to share with the students or are able to volunteer for reading, support the activities during literacy block or during play base learning time please let me know. Please note that it is a DECD requirement that all volunteers need a DCSI History Screening. To access a form please go to the following link:

### Important Dates

- Swimming is in week 4 from Monday the 22\(^{nd}\) to Friday the 26\(^{th}\) of February.
- There are two Pupil Free Days this term in week 5 on Monday the 29\(^{th}\) of February and in week 6 on Friday the 11\(^{th}\) of March.
- Kidmanathon is in week 8 on Thursday the 24\(^{th}\) of March.
- U6 will be hosting the school assembly in week 9 on Tuesday.
- School photos are in week 10 on Tuesday the 5\(^{th}\) of April.