Introduction

Welcome back to U6 for term 3! I hope you all enjoyed the term 2 holidays and you’re ready for another busy and fun-filled term.

Maths

In Maths this term we will continue to focus on consolidating and extending our counting skills and knowledge of place value. Students will be introduced to Financial Maths with our topic on money, where they will look at the features of Australian currency and order small collections of coins and notes according to their value. They will recognise and describe fractions as halves, quarters or eighths and represent division as groupings of equal sets.

In addition, we will also be focusing on shape and time. Students will investigate 2D and 3D shapes, looking at their features and exploring the ideas of symmetry and tessellation. They will be focusing on telling time to the quarter hour and use a calendar to identify particular dates and to determine the number of days in each month. Students will also be investigating the relationship between the months of the year and the seasons.

Maths homework will continue this term starting in week 2. Students will complete a variety of questions each week that involve a range of mathematical concepts and skills that we have been working on in class.

English

Students will continue to be engaged in a literacy block where reading (shared and guided), writing, phonics, spelling and comprehension is explicitly taught and practised. We will continue to work with U4 during Literacy Centres in the morning. During Literacy Centres this term students will have the opportunity to use ‘Tocomail’ on the iPads or laptops as part of a writing activity. Tocomail is a free child-friendly email account that can only be accessed via usernames and passwords that I have created. Each literacy group will have an email account to share, which is monitored by myself. This tool is a great way to promote 21st century learning and for students not only to practise their writing skills, but also their typing skills. Students will be given a written task in their literacy group once a week which they will email to one of their peers and also have the opportunity to respond to emails.

Our focus for writing this term will be on writing procedures and information reports. In spelling students will continue to focus on digraphs, blends and word families. This term group 1 will be focusing on ‘ou’, ‘ar’, ‘ay’, ‘ea’, ‘igh’, ‘ow’, ‘ew’ and ‘or’ words and group 2 will be focusing on ‘ly’, ‘ment’, ‘ty’, ‘ed’, ‘es’, ‘y to an i’, ‘air’, ‘are’ and ‘aw’ words. Please note there will be no spelling homework or spelling test in week 10 due to Sports Day.

Students will continue to be supported to develop independent reading skills, improve their understanding and comprehension of what they are reading and also to develop their confidence as a reader. To assist with developing comprehension skills and making connections to reading, students will be encouraged to respond to a variety of texts with a particular focus on retelling and implied meaning.
Thank you so much for all the wonderful reading that is happening at home this year. It has been great to see the number of students using Bug Club. Just a reminder that student logins can be found in each student's communication book.

Our focus for grammar this term will be on proof reading and editing skills, in particularly punctuation.

In addition, students will be engaged in another author study this term which will be based on Australian author Mem Fox.

**Science**

In Science this term we will be focusing on Chemical Science, in particularly looking at different mixtures with our unit 'All Mixed Up'. Students will have the opportunity to investigate various materials to determine what does and doesn’t mix well together and identify mixtures that are difficult to separate. They will also explore how changing quantities of materials in a mixture can alter its properties and uses.

**HASS**

In Geography this term students will be exploring how people are connected to many places. We will begin our work looking at the Olympics. Students will identify the features that define places and recognise that places can be described at different scales. In addition, students will also develop their understanding of our world by identifying the major geographical divisions on Earth and where they are located in relation to Australia.

**Specialist Subjects**

Health (on Tuesdays)

In term 3 we will be focussing on the child protection curriculum, particularly keeping safe. Foundation students will be identifying knowledge, skills and understandings that can help keep children safe in a variety of situations. They will investigate this through the examination of relationships, the exploration of feelings and the development of personal trust networks. Students will analyse their own emotions in order to better understand their reactions to different events they may encounter in their world and will also begin to examine how the community supports safety. Foundation students will be continuously reflecting on their personal responsibilities and rights in relation to safe behaviours.

Positive Education (on Tuesdays)

The Joy Project is all about developing a joy for both life and learning. For T3 we will focus on the following:

- Compassion & Kindness - considering the needs of others and connecting with others
- Generosity, Giving & Receiving - identifying and acknowledging what others do
- Forgiveness & Letting Go - Being a good finder, even when things go bad

Our goal is to assist students in developing and maintaining positive friendships, understanding what friendships are and how friends treat each other with Compassion, Generosity and Forgiveness. By doing this, we bring joy to the lives of others and ourselves. This then fosters a positive learning environment.

In the PEARL Room students will focus on the following questions -

- What does it mean to be kind?
- Who are the people in your life you would consider to be kind?
- How do you listen to someone talking to you?
- How kind are you to yourself?
We can all make a difference to our community, we all choose to either make a joyful or negative difference.

Japanese (on Tuesdays and Thursdays):
In Japanese this term we have an exciting programme planned incorporating both language and culture. Please read on to see what your children will be learning in the Japanese Room. And please remember to contact me via email on Belinda.Brenen164@schools.sa.edu.au or pop in to the Japanese Room if you’d like to chat about your child’s learning. I’d love to meet you!

Students will use the much-loved book “The Hungry Caterpillar” as the basis for their learning. We will read the book (in English and Japanese), talk about foods, days of the week, life cycle of a butterfly, and look at a variety of useful verbs. Students will learn to recognise, read and copy some relevant hiragana and high-frequency kanji as well. Culturally we will learn about Japanese Summer Festivals with Noriko Sensei. We will learn about Japanese summer foods and activities as well as create some beautiful summer artwork.

Physical Education (on Wednesdays)
First up, I’ll reinforce badminton skills for after being offered more clinics from Badminton SA. Instruction will target all abilities, using a range of modified equipment: short and long handled racquets, shuttlecocks (regular and oversize) and balloons.
I’ll then run a 3 week footskills block as we continue our association with Glenelg FC who’ll offer football clinics mid term.
We have finally been able to lock in the outstanding ‘Aussie Hoops’ program with clinics from Basketball SA, and my program will reinforce basketball skills and games.
Of course, as the Rio Olympics and our Sports Day approaches, we’ll discuss and practise related events: high jump, long jump, targets, relays etc.

Morning routines

Well done to everyone for settling in efficiently ready to start term 3 and remembering to:
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. Quietly find a spot to read with a parent or a partner.

Community Reading will continue each morning between 8:40 and 8:55am. It has been great to see parents inviting other students to come and read when their parent is not available.

Library Day / Computers

U6’s library time has changed this term. We now visit the library every Friday morning for a browse and borrow as well as Research Based Learning (RBL) with Ms Burrow. Our focus for RBL this term will be on researching Australia, which links in with our Geography topic. Students will have the opportunity to research one of the states or territories in Australia using a wide variety of resources including books and the internet and present their findings in the form of a PowerPoint presentation. Just a reminder that students are only allowed to borrow 2 books at a time so 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.
Students in the Early Years have been very fortunate to receive 40 new laptops to replace the computers in the southern unit computer room. Our Computer lessons are on Thursdays and Fridays this term. During these lessons students will continue to practise their word processing skills as well as accessing Mathletics and other online educational resources including; ABCya and Arcademics to further develop literacy and numeracy skills. Students will continue to develop their data input and graphing skills and use the internet as a research tool to assist with their RBL project.

**Reminders**

Student/Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in week 2 on Tuesday the 2\(^{nd}\) and Wednesday the 3\(^{rd}\) of August. Interview times have been placed in your child's communication book. If you are unable to attend the interview could you please let me know so that another time can be arranged for you.

Book Fair will be happening in weeks 2 and 3 from Thursday the 4\(^{th}\) to Wednesday the 10\(^{th}\) of August.

U6 and U4 students will be going on an excursion in week 3 to see the performance 'Emily Loves Bounce' on Friday the 12\(^{th}\) of August at the Oden Theatre.

Book Week is in week 5. On Tuesday the 23\(^{rd}\) of August there will be a book week parade in the hall. Students may come dressed as their favourite book character.

There will be a school closure day in week 7 on Friday the 9\(^{th}\) of September.

Sports Day will be on the last day of term on the 30\(^{th}\) of September. Students have been placed in their team colours, which can be also be found in your child's communication book.

Investigation will continue this term on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. If you have any junk material (eg. boxes, paper towel rolls, bottle caps etc) you may have lying around at home that you wish to donate it would be greatly appreciated.