



EARLY YEARS

U5A & U5M NEWSLETTER Term 3

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Introduction

Welcome back to U5A and U5M for term 3! We hope you all enjoyed the term 2 holidays and you're ready for another busy and fun-filled term. This term we will continue to engage in the connected curriculum and explore a new focus with our big question 'How do actions cause reactions?' Our journey towards implementing the Walker Learning Approach will continue and it has been fantastic to see how the students are transferring their knowledge and skills into their own personal projects during their investigation time. This term we will continue to focus on our learning intentions to ensure students have a clear understanding of the learning that will be targeted throughout the week. You can find a copy of the learning intentions and focus student roster on the communication board at the front of the classroom.

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 or quarters 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 half 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.

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. This term students will undertake the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check as part of a Government initiative to improve literacy outcomes. Further information is available on the link below:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/g/files/net691/f/phonics-screening-check-information-fact-sheet.pdf>

Our focus for writing this term will continue to be on writing recounts and narratives as well as students being introduced to the structure and features of procedural text. In spelling, students will continue to develop their knowledge of diagraphs and word families. This term students will be bringing home 10 spelling words to practise as of week 2. We will be focusing on 'ou', 'ar', 'ay', 'ea', 'igh', 'ow', 'ew' and 'or' 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 Physical Sciences, in particularly looking at light and sounds with our unit 'Look! Listen!'. Students will have the opportunity to investigate sources of light and sound, how they are produced and how light and sound travels. They will examine how light and sound is useful in our everyday lives and make predictions and share observations with each other. In addition, students will have the opportunity to explore forces and motion as part of our connected curriculum unit through a variety of STEM activities.

HASS – Humanities and Social Sciences

In HASS this term we will continue to examine past and present aspects of daily life to explore the changes that have occurred throughout history, with a focus on toys and education and the role technology has played in this change.

Specialist Areas

U5A

Japanese (with Belinda Brenen on Mondays)

PE (with Jodie Molitor on Mondays)

Performing Arts (with Tiffany McCallum on Tuesdays)

Positive Education (with Desy Pantelos on Tuesdays)

STEM (with Sandra Clarke on Wednesdays)

U5M

Japanese (with Belinda Brenen on Mondays)

PE (with Jodie Molitor on Mondays)

Performing Arts (with Tiffany McCallum on Tuesdays)

Positive Education (with Desy Pantelos on Tuesdays)

STEM (with Sandra Clarke on Wednesdays)

Performing Arts

Well, drama really seems to be fitting for this term's Connected Curriculum question, 'do actions cause reactions?' The premise of drama is our character's reaction to the actions of others and the situations we find ourselves in. Students will create and explore a range of roles and situations by varying voice, movement and facial expression to communicate a characters intention and react to the situation at hand.

Foundation to Year 2

How do we react to each other and situations we find ourselves when at an amusement park?

Key Learning Intentions

- taking part in an amusement park dramatic role play
- exploring possibilities for role and situation at an amusement park
- taking turns in offering and accepting role-play ideas
- news reporting roles taking photos or videoing drama that occurs during investigations, and communicating this from a 'news room'
- using the voice to explore and show role and situation
- using facial expression to explore and show role and situation • using movement to explore and show role and situation

Morning routines

Well done to everyone for settling in efficiently ready to start term 3 and remembering to:

1. Put your bag outside on the bag rack.
2. Take out your reader folder, lunch bag and drink bottle and bring inside.
3. Put your drink bottle in the 'Drink Bottle' basket/container.
4. Put lunch bags on your bag hook in the corridor.
5. If you are in U5M put your reader folder on your table and if you are in U5A 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 or give your note to Ms Lekkas.
7. Put your lunch order in the lunch order basket at the front of the classroom.
8. Quietly find a spot to read with a parent or a partner.

Community Reading will continue each morning between 8:40 and 8:55am. During this time, sight words will continue to be checked by the teacher while the rest of the class is quietly reading.

Library Day / Computers

After 2 terms of the library being out of action due to the upstairs renovations, classes can finally begin to use the library again. U5 will visit the library on Friday afternoons for a browse and borrow. Just a reminder that 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.

During ICT lessons this term students will continue to use the laptops to practise their keyboard and typing skills through a variety of games as well as accessing Mathletics (via the internet) to encourage further development of their mathematical skills. In addition, students will also be introduced to features in Microsoft Word and use this program as a way of publishing their work.

Reminders

As part of our SunSmart Policy students will be required to wear their school hats as of week 7.

Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held in week 2 on Tuesday 31st and Wednesday 1st of August.

Book Fair will be held in week 3 from Monday the 6th to Wednesday the 8th of August.

U5A and U5M will be going on an excursion to watch 'The Cranky Bear' performance at the Arts Theatres on Friday the 10th of August. The excursion costs \$25 which includes a ticket to the performance and transportation. Could all permission notes/money please be returned by Friday the 3rd of August.

Students will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge this term. This will be recorded as a whole class.

Book Week is in week 5. This year's theme is 'Finding your treasure'. Further information will be provided in the coming weeks.

There will be a Pupil Free Day in week 7 on Monday the 3rd of September.

There is a school closure day on Friday the 7th of September for The Royal Show.

Sports Day will be held on the last day of term on Friday the 28th of September. Students will be placed in their team colour in the coming weeks. Please note that your child may not be in the same team colour as they were last year. We do our best to ensure that all siblings are placed in the same sport's team colour and that the teams are as even as possible.

We hope to see you there cheering us on!

Investigation will continue this term on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. We would appreciate any junk material (eg. boxes, paper towel rolls, bottle caps etc) you may have lying around at home that you wish to donate.