



Year 1 & 2 Newsletter, Term 2 2018

Welcome to Term 2! This newsletter contains important information about your child's learning this term.

Morning routine

We will continue to begin each morning with community reading. We believe this helps the students begin the day in a relaxed and positive way. This now runs from 8.40am till approximately 8:50am each morning. In this time parents can read with their child, students can read together, teachers test students on their sight words and students record their take home book for that night in their reading journal. At 8:50am, both classes meet on the U4 mat for daily phonics.

Blue Reader Folder/Bag

Please ensure your child brings their blue reader bag to school each day. We need constant access to oxford word lists, communication books, sight word books and reading journals.

Communication books

As you can imagine, mornings are very busy in our classroom! We ask that parents please take advantage of the communication books we have provided if you have questions or comments about your child. If there is a message from you in the communication book please leave it in the communication book basket in your room so the teacher can read it. We will then write a response or, if needed, get in contact with you at an appropriate time.

Sight words and spelling words

From term 2, both year 1 and 2 students will receive 10 words for spelling practise, unless negotiated with a teacher. Students will continue to be tested on Friday's. **Please ensure your child brings their sight word book on this day!**

Homework

Students should read daily and have a parent record comments in their reading journal after reading, where possible. Students should also be practising their spelling words each night and utilising Mathletics for numeracy homework if desired. Please ensure you only take home books that are **at your child's reading level**. This is very important, as some students may read fluently, but need to develop literal and inferential comprehension skills.

Connected Curriculum

In Term 2 for the Connected Curriculum, we will be focusing on the question: "Is change a constant?"

Year 1's will be exploring how physical materials can be changed in a variety of ways and how family life has changed or stayed the same over time. Students will be looking at the following big questions:

1. **How can we show that the present is different from the past?**
2. **How has technology changed over time?**
3. **How do materials change when manipulated?**

Year 2 will be looking at how materials can be combined for different purposes and how changes in technology has shaped daily life using the following big questions:

1. **What aspects of the past can you see today?**
2. **How did people communicate/ travel/ use energy in the past vs now?**
3. **How do mixtures cause change?**
4. **How can materials be changed to create something new?**

Students will be exploring these questions by observing, asking questions, making predictions, participating in discussions and researching independently.

Literacy

We will be focusing on the structure of narrative writing and exploring narrative features in Term 2. We will continue to consolidate knowledge of recounts and introduce Poetry as a focus. Students will also be provided with opportunities to explore features of writing through daily bookmaking lessons and Literacy Centres.

Numeracy

We will be focusing on developing our shape and measurement skills in Term 2 by exploring 2D and 3D shapes and objects and informal and formal measuring. We will continue to increase our knowledge of place value and skip counting by 2s, 3s, 5s, and 10s.

Donations

We are always looking for donations to our Investigation resources. If you have any recyclable materials for making or old appliances for tinkering, please bring them in. Please do not bring in toilet rolls or egg cartons.

Winter is fast approaching and **we are in need of tissue donations!** If each family could please provide one box of tissues to the classroom that would be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers

If you have a skill or hobby that you would like to share with our students (gardening, music, cooking etc) please come and see your class teacher to arrange a time to come in and work with our class. Volunteers must have the appropriate clearance. Please see the office if you need to arrange this.

Please feel free to email your child's teacher if you have any further questions.

Michael Hewitt

michael.hewitt492@schools.sa.edu.au

Tsari Jones

tsari.spencer352@schools.sa.edu.au

Carol Van Der Wijngaart

carol.vanderwijngaart808@schools.sa.edu.au