

# Welcome to Term Four, 2019



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to Term Four!

It will be a busy last term of the year with the 1-2 Fun Night, Carols Night, excursion to 'Charlie and the Chocolate factory' lots of new learning for our students, revision and final assessments.

Below are housekeeping notes to be aware of within the Grade 1/2 area, as well as details about the various curriculum areas covered throughout the term.

Kind regards,

The Grade 1/2 Team

*Denise Anderson, Jane Cardamone, Kate Dyer, Tania Haimon, Marina Plesa and Martha Mackenzie*

## General Reminders

### iPads

Please ensure your child's iPad is charged and ready for use each day. All school apps must be installed (please refer to the list on the school's web page) and **a minimum of 6GB of space is required for school use.**

It is important that all games on your child's iPad are **age appropriate** (e.g. Games with a rating of M are not allowed).

All messaging and call services must be disabled as per School iPad Agreement.

### Library

It is a Library requirement that students have a library bag in order to borrow. They will be allowed to borrow one book each week.

### Rubbish Free Lunches

We are continuing to strive for lunches free from rubbish at Oak Park, and remind families to reduce the amount of packaging included in children's lunch boxes.

### Important Dates

- **25<sup>th</sup> October 1-2 Fun Night and Sleepover only for Grade 2 students**
- **4<sup>th</sup> November Curriculum Day- Report Writing**
- **5<sup>th</sup> November Melbourne Cup**
- **4<sup>th</sup> December Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Excursion**
- **5<sup>th</sup> December-Family Carols Night**
- **18<sup>th</sup> December- Students meet new teachers**
- **20<sup>th</sup> December –Last school day of the year. 1.30pm dismissal**

## Curriculum Areas

### Literacy – Reading

We will be practising independent reading for a sustained amount of time, focusing on thinking about our reading and responding to texts. Students will retell the story and answer literal and inferential questions. They will become familiar with the structure of non-fiction texts: i.e. content page, headings, sub-headings, glossary, labels, diagrams etc. We will continue our work on narratives: identifying the setting, characters and story development. Our study about the novel ‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory’ will include making predictions, text to self-connections and making inferences about character traits.

**Home Readers:** Children take home books to practise their fluency, expression and comprehension, as well as to foster their love of reading. Reading logs are to be signed by parents **each night**, and we now encourage children to read for at least 15-20 minutes. Practising their ‘M100W (200 and 300) words and identifying them immediately is important for the development of their reading fluency. Listening to children read, as well as reading to them, is recommended. Asking questions about the text, having your child retell what they have read in their own words and having open discussions will also assist in developing reading skills.

### Literacy – Spelling

Students will be involved in a classroom based Inquiry spelling program. This will require students to use theme words and most common used words within their writing. Inquiry spelling is about teaching spelling strategies rather than learning by rote. When students make connections with words that they already know they are able to spell new words.

### Numeracy

We will be focusing on fractions, money, recognising and continuing patterns and counting patterns. Time will be spent on revising and consolidating areas of the curriculum covered throughout the year e.g. place value, addition, subtraction, groups of and sharing. Students will use concrete materials to represent and solve written mathematical problems. Number fluency and skip counting will continue to be developed.

The non-number areas covered this term will be:

- 3D Shapes- Name and recognise the properties of 3D shapes
- Time- Read and record times on analogue and digital clocks (Grade 1s- half hour, Grade 2s- to the quarter hour)
- Length- Estimate, compare and order length using informal units.
- Data- Collecting data and representing it using different graphs (e.g. pictograph, bar graph)

Please encourage your child to practise skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards to 100 and beyond. Where possible, share with your child maths in everyday life e.g. telling the time, use of calendar, measuring ingredients for a recipe, cutting a pizza in half, quarters etc.

## **Inquiry Learning**

Our Inquiry concept this term is 'Change'. As part of this unit, students will be investigating how life has changed since their parents' and grandparents' childhoods. What is it like to be 6 or 7 now? What was it like when your grandparent was 6 or 7? How has school life changed? Students will also become familiar with their 'Family Tree' and their family's background.

# **Specialist Curriculum Areas**

## **Japanese**

The 1/2s will continue to build their knowledge of the writing scripts; Kanji, Katakana and Hiragana. They will learn Japanese foods and how to describe their tastes using appropriate sentence structures. The students will continue expand their knowledge of the culture of Japan through the study of books and songs.

## **Sustainability**

During the final term, 1/2 classes will be involved in looking after the vegetable gardens, including weekly watering and choosing crops to plant using seasonal planting principles. Students will also observe the special events; National Water Week and National Recycling Week and take part in related activities. The major focus will be studying frogs, including taking part in a citizen science project called 'Frog Census'. Frogs are an important indicator of environmental health, as they are particularly sensitive to pollutants and habitat alteration. It is hoped that we will finish off the term with some cooking using ingredients from our garden.

## **Visual Arts**

During Term 4, Grade 1/2 students will be creating artworks based on paintings created by Australian artist Kirra Jamison. Students will explore the various artworks created by Jamison and view a brief history of the artist. 3 or 4 collages/paintings will be created and the students will be focussing on the techniques used by the artist. A look at colours used in her artworks will be explored and related to Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and Complimentary Colours, as well as form and shape. Students will try to replicate some of these themes and techniques in their own artworks. Looking forward to another wonderfully creative term with the Grade 1/2 students!

## **Physical Education**

This term in PE, Grade 1 and 2 students will be introduced to Net and Wall Games. These games could include bat tennis, down-ball, four square and badminton. This unit is aimed at providing students with opportunities to apply their Fundamental Motor Skills within the context of modified games, which will emphasize repetition of specific skills such as striking/hitting the ball. Students will also continue to develop teamwork and sportsmanship through friendly competition.