

Grade 1-2 Newsletter Term Four, 2017



Dear Parent/Guardians,

Welcome to Term Four!

It is unbelievable how fast the year is going and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continual support with your child's education. We have another busy term ahead with the 'Oaktoberfest Film Festival', 'School Carol's Night' and the '1-2 Fun Night'.

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

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

King regards,

The Grade 1/2 Team

Jane Cardamone, Kate Dyer, Hayley Evans, Lacey-Rae Garner and Alex Macias

Upcoming Events

26th October –Oaktoberfest Film Festival
7th December - School Carol's Night
8th December - 1-2 Fun Night and Grade 2 Sleepover

General Reminders

iPads	Rubbish Free Lunches
<p>Please ensure your child's iPad is charged and ready for use each day. Your child's iPad needs at least 32 GB (or higher) storage for school use.</p> <p>This is imperative for your child to access school apps promptly and to complete daily set tasks.</p> <p>Students are responsible to take their iPads out of their bags every morning, and place them into the filing cabinet where they will be kept when not in use.</p>	<p>We are continuing to strive for rubbish free lunches and remind families to reduce the amount of packaging included in children's lunch boxes.</p> <p>Also please ensure that your child has sufficient lunch to get them through the day and a water bottle.</p>

Curriculum Areas

English

Reading and Writing: The focus this term will be on 'Persuasive' and 'Procedural' texts. Students will become familiar with the structure of these texts, language features and the purpose that they serve. They will identify facts and opinions in texts and make inferences.

Home Readers: Children will 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 encourage children to read for at least 15 minutes.

Listening to children read, as well as modelling reading to them with expression and fluency, is recommended. Having your child retell the main events, asking questions about the text and discussing the content will also assist in developing your child's comprehension of the text.

Spelling

The Inquiry Spelling Program will require students to become familiar with different sound patterns and how they are represented. Inquiry spelling is about teaching spelling strategies rather than learning by rote. Some of the Spelling Foci will include; 'squ', 'sw', 'sc', 'sk', 'scr', 'sm', 'sn', 'sp', 'st' and 'nk' words.

Compound words, command verbs and theme words will also be covered this term.

Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be focusing on; Fractions, Place Value, Money and worded mathematical problems using the four processes (i.e. Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division).

The non-number areas that will be covered include: Time, Calendar, Capacity and Mass (Grade 1 and 2), Volume (Grade 2).

Our aim is to develop numerate students who can explain their thinking, use concrete materials to solve mathematical problems and explain the strategies that they have used.

It is also important for them to view mathematics in everyday life and see how mathematics is used at home; e.g. measuring ingredients when cooking, time needed to cook something, cost of ingredients etc.

Challenge Based Learning

Our Big Idea for Term 4 is 'Change.' As part of this unit, students will be focusing on: What changes does food go through before it gets to our plate?

Areas of discussion and research will include: How does food change into a different product? Where does food come from? What is healthy eating? How can we make healthy alternatives?

Our Challenge- to make bread, butter and ice-cream for the 1-2 Fun Night and Sleepover.

Japanese

The grade 1/2 students will learn how to talk about their pets in Japanese. They will be able to name the type of animal is and give a brief description about them in a pet poster. The students will further enhance their knowledge of Japanese culture through the study of *Gyotaku* (Nature prints).

Visual Arts

During Visual Arts lessons in Term 4, Grade 1 and 2 students will continue to learn about drawing, painting and construction. The focus for the term will be related to the CBL topic of "Change"— How does a product change by the time it gets to a consumer? Students will be painting and drawing many different types of foods, as they will be creating a type of food for the 1/2 Sleepover, observing the changes their food invention goes through. Grade 1 and 2 classes will also complete art activities related to Halloween and Remembrance Day. Your child(ren) will bring these artworks home so keep an eye out for them and discuss the techniques and processes they used. Looking forward to another wonderful term in Visual Arts.

Sustainability

The 1/2 students will be visiting the Sustainability room on a weekly basis. Following on from their introduction last year, students will have the chance to explore many artefacts and the creatures we have in the room. We will re-use many common materials to make new products, including soft drink bottles, milk containers and paper. The 1/2 students will also be in charge of looking after the chickens. Each week a different class will be responsible for providing food, water and health checks as well as collecting eggs and herding the chickens back to their coop at the end of the day. It promises to be a lot of fun and some interesting learning ahead!

Physical Education

This term the Grade 1 students will continue developing their Fundamental Motor skills. These include throwing, catching, bouncing, kicking and two-handed striking.

We will also focus on locomotor skills, including running, dodging, leaping and skipping as well as continuing to develop inter-personal skills.