

Grade 1/2 Newsletter

Welcome to Term 2, 2016

Maths

During Term Two students will continue to develop their skills in the areas of : Addition; Subtraction; Place Value and Skip Counting by twos; threes; fives and tens to 100.

Students will also be working on the following areas: Counting and ordering money according to the value; Length; Capacity; Mass; Time: analogue to the hour, half and daily routines; 2D shapes; Location; Months of the year and calendar; Chance and Data. It's going to be a busy term!

The Mathletics website will be used during classroom activities and should also be used at home.

You can help your children at home by involving them in mathematical activities and talking to them about mathematics and its everyday life. Be positive! Praise your child's effort, rather than talent.

Encourage your child to have a go at measuring, calculating, counting, estimating and solving problems. Invite children to investigate and make discoveries for themselves. Encourage them to find their own answers. Don't be too quick to tell them the answers.

Materials to have on hand: dice; dominos; number cards 0-9; 100 chart; games such as UNO and Snakes and Ladders.

Show children how you use maths in your everyday activities, e.g. measuring ingredients, estimating costs, calculating change, timing how long things take to cook, preparing shopping lists, using calibrated containers, using kitchen scales, tendering money, telling the time, looking for patterns in the environment, reading house numbers, number plates. These activities will help them become mathematical problem solvers and develop lifelong skills.

Keep the Calendar Up-to-date. Mark any special events on the calendar, e.g. family and

friends' birthdays, outings, holidays, etc. Look for patterns in the number squares. Encourage children to make their own calendars.

Differentiated Literacy and Numeracy Groups: Our daily differentiated groups will incorporate Mathematics and Literacy sessions which will enable support and extension activities for all students in Years 1 and 2.

Mass and Height : Keep a record of your child's mass and height. See how much they have grown each year. Do this for everyone in the family. Graph the results.

Inquiry

In Term 2 our Inquiry topic is 'What makes it move?' which is a science based topic.

The understandings for this unit of study are:

Mechanisms cause movement in everyday objects.

Many different objects use the same basic mechanisms.

There are many parts that work together to make objects move.

Students have been asked to bring in household objects or toys for us to observe during their Fantastic Friday time. These need to be items which use different mechanisms. This could be anything from a kitchen utensil to a toy or something from your garage. Have a look around and see what you can find.

We have planned an incursions on

May 30-3rd June - Hands On Science Incursion

More details to come closer to the date.

In Inquiry learning, students have many opportunities to investigate their own interests and questions related to particular concepts.

Reflection is an important component in Inquiry based learning.

Towards the end of Term 2 students will be asked to design and make something that moves.

Literacy

In Term 2 we will move into writing narratives. Students will read narratives and learn about their structure. They will identify and describe the main characters, the setting, the conflict and resolution in narratives.

Throughout the term, students will consolidate their editing and publishing skills. They will complete their own narrative and have the opportunity to present it to their class. Students will focus on sequencing, and cause and effect as well as compare and contrast to improve their reading comprehension skills.

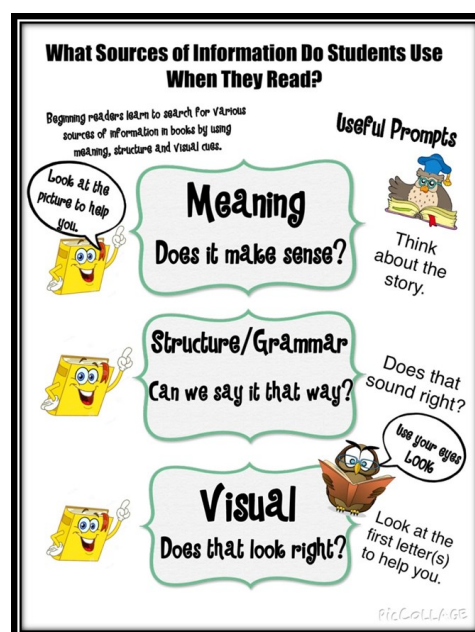
In grammar, students will further explore the different aspects of sentence structure; learn to identify and use adjectives, conjunctions, talking marks, contractions and compound words.

Reading Strategies to Help your Child

When children read, they use sources of information in books (clues) to help them make decisions and problem solve new words, in order to make sense of the story.

The sources of information used are: meaning (what the story is about), structure (grammar) and visual cues (sound-letter associations). Good readers combine all three sources of information.

When your child comes to a new word, rather than just giving your child the answer or asking your child to "sound it out", try one of these prompts. Prompts



encourage the reader to search for more information; work out a word by themselves, notice and correct their own mistakes.

Find more

prompts in the Rocket or at <http://jackielmc.edublogs.org>

Jackie McArdle

Reading Recovery

To further enhance their learning the Reading Eggs/Eggspress website will be used during classroom activities and we strongly encourage students to use this website at home.

JAPANESE

Grade1/2: Classroom objects, self- introduction and reading and writing of 15 hiragana

Students identify classroom objects in Japanese by pointing, singing, verbally naming, drawing or selecting from a set of pictures. Students will also be able to construct a simple conversation, such as “May I borrow your scissors? Sure, here you are. Thank you. You’re welcome.” They will continue to learn 10~15 hiragana and related words using the iPad.

Music 1/2

Students create music by singing and playing a variety of instruments. Many songs and tunes have associated games and activities to make the learning fun. They plan, experiment and select appropriate sounds and create their own music or soundscape.

They begin to experience ways to notate and record music.

They listen and discuss a variety of music.

Term 2 PE / PMP

There is no let up this term as the focus on Fundamental Motor Skills in PE and PMP continues. This term we will be introducing basic ball skills such as bounce, underarm toss, overarm throw and catch.

Many thanks to all the parents who have been helping out with PMP - your support is much appreciated. If you want to come along and help, please do - it is a great way to meet other parents and the kids love to see you there!

Music This semester the focus is on the theme of Australian music, especially indigenous Aboriginal music. Year 2 Xylophone ensemble is a 30 minute class which is held over 5 or 6 weeks for a small group of students. All year 2's will get a turn over the course of the year.

Upcoming Events

May 19	Grandparents' Day
May 20	Report Writing Day
May 30-3rd June	Hands On Science Incursion
June 13	Queen's Birthday holiday
June 24	End of Term 2

YEARS 1 and 2 IN THE ART ROOM IN TERM 2, 2016 :

Term Two's Art Program for the 1/2 students will include Drawing, Chalk and Pastels Designing, Fabric and Natural Texture Collages, Photography, Construction design and Printmaking. The Level 2 Inquiry unit for Term Two, 'What makes it move?' will also be incorporated into their Artwork.

The students will be exploring the special aspects of Syndal South this term through drawing ideas and images that can be incorporated in both Mosaic and Painting form within the school grounds at a later date. Chalk, Charcoal and Chalk/Oil Pastels will be mediums used in drawing ideas and the designing process of images. Students will gain an understanding of Texture through using various materials, such as fabric and natural resources to create Collages. They will be introduced to Photography, where they will experiment with taking photos of what they love or think is special about Syndal South. Construction creations will encourage the use of Recycled materials.

Reminder that it is essential that students have a clearly named art shirt or smock which remains in their classroom when Art sessions are not conducted. If you need an Art smock one can be purchased from the school uniform shop.