

Grade 1/2 Newsletter

Welcome to Term 4, 2014

Maths

During Term Four students will continue to develop their skills in the areas of : Addition and Subtraction, making connections between Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication – simple sets as repeated addition and arrays, Division as grouping into equal sets and Fractions.

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 and 3D shapes, Location, One step, slide, flip, turn to $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$, Chance and Data and Graphing.

Some areas of Maths this term are new and some are revisited to consolidate concepts and skills.

We will also be learning many maths games so please ask your child to explain to you the week's and help them improve by playing with them.

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

Uniform reminders

Hats are required to be worn at school in term 4.

Homework

Homework for Level 2 students is largely comprised of your child's take-home reader. These should come home in a reading pouch and should contain a reading log. We ask parents to read nightly with their child, as well as sign and comment in the reading log. Please encourage and support your child as they attempt unfamiliar words, so that they are confident to 'have a go' at more challenging text.

Speaking and Listening

We will be developing student's speaking and listening skills in both formal and conversational situations. Students will practice skills including volume, pace and inflection, as well as learning to be active and courteous listeners and conversationalists.

We are looking forward to an exciting, very full and extremely busy term.

The Level 2 team: Clare Searle, Georgette Monaco, Jessie Evans, Veena Sen, Angela Roberts.

School Concert

The School Concert is on this term with our practices culminating in a performance on Tuesday 28th October.

This is an exciting community event which brings our whole school and parent community together, it is wonderful to see how enthusiastic our students are already.

In Term 4 our Inquiry topic is 'How can we Learn our Passion'. This is very different to other terms as students are asked to chose a topic of study and take on more responsibility for their own learning .

The understandings for this Inquiry are:

- Setting goals and asking questions help us to build new understandings
- There are ways to check if information is reliable
- We can share our learning and influence others
- Reflecting on our learning helps us to see how our thinking has changed

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.

In the last few weeks of term 4 we will run an Inquiry unit on Coding. Various activities will be completed leading up to the students making their own code for something to move- on computer, Bee Bots.

Literacy

In Term 4 we will start our 'Writer's Notebooks' and revise all text types. We are all very excited about planting seeds (ideas) for their writing.

In Reading Comprehension we will focus on four areas: Finding Word Meaning in Context, Drawing Conclusions, Making Inferences and Making Predictions.

In grammar, students will learn to identify and use talking marks, verbs, adjectives, tenses, prefixes, suffixes, nouns, pronouns, possessive apostrophes, homophones, question marks, exclamation marks and contractions .

Lunches

- ☐ Provide a healthy lunch with minimal litter where possible.
 - ☐ Please ensure that water bottles are used for water only and do not leak. No other drinks.
- All items of your child's clothing as well as lunch boxes, drink bottles etc, should be named.

Library

The students are enjoying borrowing from the library. All students require a library bag at school on their library day in order to be able to borrow

The Importance of Reading

The visual included “Why Can’t I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?” comes from research by Nagy and Herman, in 1987. As you can see, the importance of regular reading at home has long been recognised as essential.

Every time your child reads at home throughout the week, the title of the book needs to be recorded in their log book and signed by you or another adult. To improve comprehension skills and vocabulary, ask your child questions relating to the book eg What was the problem in the story? What do you think is going to happen next? Why do you think ...?

Let’s kick start the term by modelling strong reading habits at home.

Students are expected to read every night at home. Every time your child reads at home throughout the week, they need to record the title of the book and have their log book signed by you or another adult.

Over view of music this term:

The student sings, plays and listens to longer and more complex music from their own and other cultures.

specifically:

The students clap the rhythm of known songs.

They sing rounds and longer songs with attention to pitch and holding their own part.

The students will recognise the sound of a trumpet, trombone, french horn and tuba.

The students will refine use of simple notation.




They will tap the beat and chant a rhyme to Mozart's Horn Concerto.

They will discuss attributes of several pieces of music that they will hear in a live performance by the quintet, Shrewd Brass.

Cost to hear the concert is \$7:90 and will take place in the school hall, 9:15am or 10:15 am Tuesday 26th November. Parents are welcome to attend this concert for FREE. Please take up this offer as you will appreciate how a group of informed students will LOVE classical music.

Make reading for 20 minutes a daily habit in Term 4


20 minutes a day =
1,800,000 words =
better Vocabulary =
better writing =
higher success and it goes on...



Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?


Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year

1,800,000 words




90th percentile

282,000 words




50th percentile

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?
(Nagy & Herman, 1987)



Jackie McArdle

Reading Recovery

<http://jackielmc.edublogs.org/>

An Outline of Visual Art for Years 1&2 for Term 4

This term the students in years 1 & 2 will be painting, drawing, print making, creating collages, modelling from clay and taking photographs on the digital cameras.

We will be looking at the Seasons of Spring and Summer and the colours that are associated with each Season. Students will examine and discuss related art works by artists. Examples of the artists' art will viewed on the large screen TV.

At the end of the term the students will have the opportunity to choose from a few different craft projects that relate to the Festive Season.

As many lessons may involve art materials that can stain clothing it is important that each child has an art shirt or smock to protect his or her school clothes.

Merrilyn Mann - Visual Art Teacher

This term we are planning some exciting events. We have booked a LEGO incursion and an excursion to LEGO Education Learning Centre at Docklands. More details coming soon.

Term 4 P.E.

In Term 4 our main focus will be to continue to develop our fundamental motor skills including throwing, catching and hitting a ball.

Swimming also becomes a focus as we head across to Huntingtower Aquatic Centre for an 8 day intensive program.

The Perceptual Motor Program continues with hopefully continued support from our parents.

Grade 1/2 M need more Mums and Dads to help out with reading. If you have half an hour in the morning we would really appreciate your help.

Upcoming Events

October 28	School Concert
November 3	Curriculum Day-(No school for students)
November 4	Melbourne Cup Day
Week 7 & 8	Swimming for Grades 1/2
November 15	50th Birthday Celebration
November 28	Grade 1/2 Sleepover
December 5	Curriculum Day-(No school)
December 11	Excursion to Lego Centre
December 18	Grade 1/2 Incursion