

1/2



Welcome to Term 1, 2021

Welcome to grade 1/2 for 2021. We are looking forward to this new year and the learning that will take place.

This year we have five grade 1/2 classes. 1/2A with Katie MacDonald, 1/2B with Amy Cleary and 1/2C with Deon Toogood are down in the three classrooms closest to the art room. 1/2D with Rachael Cantwell and 1/2E with Sophie Young are in the older portables at the end of the main building. Whilst students are allocated into grades, we have many opportunities within our teaching and learning to mix teach across the five grades, ensuring students have learning targeted to their ability.

LITERACY

As per our whole school literacy program, students will participate in 5 hours of reading and writing each week.

WRITING

During Term 1, our focus is establishing the writers' workshop and expectations to ensure we can make the most out of our writing time. This will include the use of the Writer's Notebook to support our students as writers.

How can you help at home?

Encourage your child to write at any opportunity at home. This could be writing the shopping list, writing letters or cards or even coming up with a few sentences to recount an activity you do as a family over the weekend.

We also encourage any photos or tickets from events that your child has been involved in to be brought in to class as they may want to stick these things in their notebooks to write about them.

READING

Reading will see us focusing on establishing our Reader's Workshop and the use of Reader's Notebooks. Talking about their reading is hugely important and we encourage you to allow time to discuss books after reading.

How can you help at home?

All grade 1/2 students are asked to complete their home reader as homework. This regular reading at home is vital to your child's progress and development as a reader. The more children read the better readers and writers they become!

Inside your child's reader pocket we have sent a note that has sample questions to prompt your child before, during and after reading.

SPELLING

As always we take a variety of approaches to teaching spelling. Students complete 'Look, Say, Name, Cover, Write, Check' twice a week and also participate in regular spelling inquiry sessions.

Throughout all of these lessons, teachers ensure they are using data to tailor words and spelling generalisations to your child and their individual needs.



NUMERACY

Each week students will participate in 5 x 1 hour lessons of maths (2 x number, 2 x applied and one problem solving).

In number, the students will develop a deep understanding of numbers (addition, subtraction, division, place value etc.).

Our applied maths topics for the term will be Geometry and Time.

How can you help at home?

Talk about the different 2D and 3D shapes at home. For example, what 3D shapes is a can of soft drink? Find these shapes at home and count up the edges, vertices and faces.

Faces– the surface of a shape. Edges-where two faces meet.
Vertices– corners.

Ask your child to tell you the time throughout the day using both analogue and digital clocks. Tell your child what time they complete regular activities like bedtime or basketball training. Focus on o'clock and half past times.

MORNING

This year we are placing emphasis on developing independence to complete morning routines. Students are expected to hang their bag up, get out their fruit and drink bottle and place those in the designated spots in the classroom.

Before going outside to play they also need to change their reader. On a wet weather day teachers will open the classrooms to allow students to wait out of the weather.



WHAT'S ON IN TERM 1?

- Friday 5th March- School Photos
 - Monday 8th March – Labour Day Public Holiday (no school)
 - Friday 12th March- House Sport Day
 - 15th Mar – 19th March – Swimming Program
 - Monday 22nd March- Resilience Project Presentation to students
 - Monday 29th March- Curriculum Day (No school for students)
- *Some of these dates may change. Information will be sent home as required*

PE DAYS

1/2A Wednesday

1/2B Tuesday

1/2C Thursday

1/2D Thursday

1/2E Wednesday

Please make sure your child is wearing appropriate shoes on the days they have PE.



SWIMMING

This year school swimming will take place over ONE week. Monday 15th- Friday 19th March. Further details of this will be released shortly.

As always we ask that EVERY item of clothing/towels/goggles are named clearly to avoid losing items.

Water and the ability to swim features so heavily in our Australian lifestyle, these lessons could be life savers for your child!

HOMEWORK

In 1/2 homework consists of :

-Reading: We encourage all students to read their school reader every night at home.

-Coloured Words: Regular practice of M100W supports students in reading, writing and spelling.

-Times Tables: We will be sending home time tables for your child to practice as part of their homework routine. Please encourage your child to practise their times table at home as knowing these will help in many mathematical applications. The best way to learn tables is by focusing on one table at a time.

We understand that many students have after school sporting and family commitments. Whilst we encourage reading every day some students complete this in the morning, some straight after school and some at bedtime. We encourage students to establish a routine that works for their family.

If your child is having trouble with homework in any way please see your teacher.

FOOD

Please ensure your child has something to eat at Hard Fruit time every day, recess and lunch. Students are given 10 minutes eating time at both recess and lunch to eat, before they go out to play.

Hard fruit should be a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables, e.g. a banana or apple, cut up watermelon, carrot or celery sticks.

To reduce waste removal costs at school, children will be bringing all food packaging home. Please consider sending your child's food in sustainable plastic containers.

DRINK BOTTLES

Please ensure your child has a drink bottle with them every day at school. It is important they have access to water within the classroom when required.

