

**Year 1 Teaching and Learning – Term 1**

**Welcome**

Welcome back to Term one. We hope you all had a relaxing and well deserved break with your families and loved ones over the summer holidays. Both students and staff have come back refreshed, enthusiastic and ready for another exciting learning journey in 2017. It has been pleasing to see how quickly everyone has settled back into the routines of school.

We have many highlights to look forward to this term, including a local community walk to support our inquiry unit.

This term, the Year 1 students will focus on developing classroom routines and organisational skills to help them be ready for every learning opportunity and, how to become responsible for their belongings. As part of our Quality Beginnings Program, we will develop our class vision/mission statements and make 'classroom promises' that highlight appropriate behaviours and expectations for the year. These statements incorporate our school values and motto 'Be Safe, Be Fair, Be Friendly'.

The Year 1 students will be participating in an additional session of Sport each week (outside of their timetabled P.E allocated time) to keep active and further increase their general fitness. These sessions will take place on Wednesdays. Students will be engaged in rotational activities targeting balance, agility, movement and gross motor skills. We encourage all students to have appropriate footwear (running shoes) on that day.

The Year 1 team are looking forward to meeting and working with all parents and carers throughout the year and developing home school partnerships. We are excited about having helpers assisting in our classrooms with reading and even offering your special talents/interests.

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding term.

Year 1 teaching team: Sharon, Vicky, Kat, Sophie, Rose

**Important dates**

13 March	Labour Day (Public holiday)
21 March	School photographs
31 March	Last day of term <b>2:30 dismissal</b>

**Student expectations**

In Term one we expect all students to:

- be at school on time and in line by the 9 o'clock bell
- ready to learn once in their classroom
- read every night
- be responsible for their belongings
- share their learning at home

**How you can help your child at home:**

- Model a positive attitude towards school and all learning experiences
- Read to and with your child every night
- Maintain a consistent before and after school routine to help your child to be organised and be responsible for their belongings

## What we are learning this term in the classroom

### English

#### Reading and Viewing

Year 1 students will be involved in an array of daily reading activities that are supporting, consolidating and extending their phonemic awareness, oral reading and comprehension skills. This term we will be consolidating and using comprehension strategies such as 'Making Connections' and 'Getting our Knowledge Ready'.

#### Writing

We will explore the **Narrative** genre, focusing on the beginning, middle and end of stories with a problem and solution. We will begin our VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) program starting with Punctuation then moving onto Vocabulary. Further information will be provided regarding this program. We will continue to teach correct letter formation concentrating on shape and sizing of letters during our weekly handwriting sessions. Spelling activities from the 'Little Learners Love Literacy' program are incorporated in our spelling program.

#### Speaking and Listening

Our programs allow for daily opportunities to practise speaking and listening through class discussions and share time. We are encouraging students to have discussions and share how they belong and contribute to a community.

### Mathematics

#### Number and Algebra

Year 1 students will continue to build solid foundations with their number knowledge through number fluency games and explicit instruction. Activities will include counting forwards and backwards, and locating numbers on a number chart and number line. Students will skip count by 2s, 5s, and 10s. The students will count collections of objects by partitioning numbers (breaking them down) using place value.

#### Measurement and Geometry

This term the students will be introducing the concept of time focusing on naming and ordering the months of the year and seasons. They will create a classroom calendar to identify the date, days and months of the year including special events that will take place at our school.

#### Statistics and Probability

Both our Quality Beginnings Program and our Inquiry topic 'My community' will provide students with opportunities to gather data, make predications and display results of student interests such as birthdays and favourite pets, using picture graphs. Students will also be encouraged to interpret the data they have collected. Student learning will be differentiated to both support and challenge all students.

### Inquiry

Our Inquiry topic is 'My Community'. The unit has a geography focus, where students will explore the skill of mapping, as well as how they, and others belong and contribute to their community. Our local walk will help to support the students' curiosity about the topic. If you have any special expertise in this area, please speak to your child's teacher as we would love to have you in our rooms sharing your knowledge.

## What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Art</b>	Sharon			VK, Rose	Art
<b>Science</b>	Sophie	Sharon			Rose, VK
<b>Performing Arts</b>	Rose	Sophie, Sharon			VK
<b>P.E.</b>	Sophie, Rose, VK,		All grade 1s		Sharon
<b>Music</b>	Rose			Sophie, VK	Sharon
<b>Computers</b>	Sharon	Rose	Sophie, VK		
<b>Library</b>		VK	Rose		Sharon, Sophie

### Physical Education

The Physical Education program helps students develop a broad range of fundamental skills and movement patterns, using different sporting equipment in a range of environments.

We will be encouraging fair play, good sportsmanship and participation throughout the program. We will be looking at fundamental skills like catching, throwing, striking, passing, kicking and then putting these skills into game situations like tee ball, scooter hockey and soccer among others. Most importantly we will be having lots of fun while keeping fit and active.

### Music

This term in music, Year 1 students will be learning how to play two note chords on tuned percussion instruments. We will be exploring different rhythms and chord patterns/progressions of some well-known songs as well as some unfamiliar tunes. We will also be exploring the concept of "call and response" and using tuned percussion to have musical conversations using a pentatonic scale. Students who learn instruments outside of school are encouraged to show classmates what they have been learning in their lessons and are welcome to bring instruments from home on their music day.

### Science/Spanish

Students in Year 1 will consolidate their knowledge on the properties of different objects. They will observe everyday objects and analyse the ways these move. They will learn more about the forces that effect the movement of objects. Students will be introduced to the movement of different things and observe how movement relates to size and shape. Students will continue to develop their knowledge of Spanish by using new verbs to describe different movements including shapes, objects and body parts. Students will also learn how to accurately use these verbs according to who or what they are talking about.

## **Art/Spanish**

In term one students in Year 1 are going to explore line, colour, shape, texture, pattern and repetition exploring the work of renowned artists Mondrian and Kandinsky. Students will make an artwork to communicate their responses to the book "The Rainbow Fish" by Marcus Pfister. This will be used to reinforce that the school values are relevant in the art room. Students will continue to develop their Spanish vocabulary to be able to communicate in the Spanish/Art classroom. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.

## **Performing Arts/Spanish**

In term one students will continue exploring the world of performing arts in Spanish. They will experience how ideas and stories can be imagined and communicated through drama. Students will be performing in front of the class and watching the performances of others. They will also be introduced to dances from Spain and South America.

## **Additional Information**

- Please make sure your child has their hat and drink bottle every day.
- To ensure your child's property is returned to them, please label all clothing, lunch boxes, lids and drink bottles.
- Please ensure that your child has a bag for their library day.
- Library and ICT sessions take place weekly. View your child's specialist timetable outside their classroom window.
- If you're able to provide a tissue box to your child's classroom, it would be much appreciated. We seem to go through them so quickly!