

Year 2 Teaching and Learning – Term 1

Welcome

Welcome to all the Year 2 families for 2017. We hope that you have had a lovely holiday and have come back to school ready and eager to learn. We would like to welcome our new students and their families to the Westgarth Community.

Term 1, although short, will be a productive and engaging one. Students will be involved in activities where they will be able to get to know one another and their teacher. As a grade, students will establish routines and expectations to ensure that every student feels safe, valued and welcomed in their new environment.

Our parent helper program will begin later on this term. Keep an eye out for the dates for the parent helper induction program in the school newsletter.

Justyn Koh

Alex Johnson

Leah Sheppard

Mark Langdon



We would like to emphasise the importance of your child arriving at school on time. This helps them to be settled and ready for learning.

Our doors are always open for you if you have any questions, or if you wish to make an appointment. Just a reminder, grade 2 swimming will take place in term 2.

Important dates /Upcoming events

14 March	Labour Day (Public holiday)
21 March	School photo day
31 March	Last day of term

Student expectations

By Term 1 we expect all students to:

- Be at school by the 9 o'clock bell
- Be ready to learn once in their classroom
- Read every night
- Practise their spelling words nightly
- Be responsible for their belongings
- Share their learning at home

How you can help your child at home

- Read each night
- Maintain a consistent before and after school routine to help your child be organised
- Encourage your child to share their day at home with you

What we are learning this term in the classroom

ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing

- Students experience a variety of reading activities on a daily basis through our literacy block. Such as I.C.T programs, book studies and comprehension investigations.
- Reading; 4 x 50 minute sessions per week to focus on comprehension, reading fluency and decoding strategies.
- Students will be involved in whole class tuning in sessions building their 'Getting Knowledge Ready' strategies (this term we will be focussing on; visualising, illustrations, brainstorming, key words, asking questions and making predictions when reading).

Writing

- Students are given opportunities daily to practise their writing. This includes exploring different text types (e.g., recounts and information reports), spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Students will be guided through explicit lessons on handwriting including correct formation, direction, slope and presentation of both lower and upper case letters.

Speaking and Listening

- At school, students are continually involved in situations where they participate in to listening and speak with others. Students will be given opportunities to practise these skills during class discussions, share time and formal presentations.

MATHEMATICS

Using open ended questions and differentiated curriculum

Number and Algebra

- Numeration and Place value: Recognising, modelling, representing and ordering numbers to at least 1000 using concrete materials
- Number patterns: Counting forwards/backwards by 2s, 5s, 10s

Measurement and Geometry

- Time: Calendars, months of the year
- 2D shapes: Recognising and representing 2D shapes
- Location: Directional language and games

Statistics and Probability

- Data collection and representations: tallies, bar and pictographs

Student activities will be differentiated to both support and challenge students according to their point of need.

INQUIRY

This term we are investigating our local community, its resources and its people. As part of this unit of work students will be asked to think about what makes up their local community and how they connect to the institutions and people that exist in their local community.

STUDENT WELL-BEING

Student wellbeing is an integral part of students learning. As part of the curriculum focus during term 1 and throughout 2017, grade 2 students will be engaged in activities, which align with the KidsMatter framework. KidsMatter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference in building community connections.

As part of this learning each class will be developing a collaborative Class Mission Statement to support learning, expectations and routines both in the classroom and when playing in the yard.

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable

(From time to time there are timetable changes to accommodate whole school activities)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Physical Education	Justyn	Leah Alex Mark			
Music	Leah	Justyn	Mark		Alex
Science/Spanish	Alex	Mark		Leah Justyn	
Art/Spanish	Mark	Alex Justyn	Leah		

Physical Education

The Physical Education program helps students develop a broad range of motor 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. Most importantly we will be having lots of fun while keeping fit and active.

Music- This term in music, grade 2 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 2 will continue developing 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 affect the movement of objects. Students will develop their ideas about the movement of different things. Students will continue to develop their knowledge of Spanish by using the verbs to describe different movements as well as the vocabulary on 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 grade two are going to start an exciting exchange with a school in Spain, with whom they will interchange letters and emails to get to know same age kids in a different country. They will start with a self-portrait accompanied by a short letter in which they will introduce themselves to their new pen pals. Students will continue to explore art concepts of line, colour, shape, texture and they will further develop their Spanish vocabulary to be able to communicate in the Spanish language. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.