

Year 1 Teaching and Learning – Term 2

Welcome

Welcome back to school for a busy Term 2 filled with stimulating learning experiences. We hope you all had a relaxing and well deserved holiday with your families and loved ones over the two week break.

We have many highlights to look forward to this term, including the Grade 1 swimming program held at the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation centre. We will be requiring parent helpers for our swimming days and look forward to any volunteers! Lessons will run from 12:30 – 3:30 pm in class groups and further information regarding the swimming program will be sent home shortly.

We are excited about having parent helpers assisting in our classrooms with reading, writing and maths. Even offering your special talents/interests.

Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear on P.E. days and Wednesdays when we run rotational sport activities across the Grade 1 classes.

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding term.



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

Important dates

ANZAC Day	April 25
Grade 1 Swimming	May 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 (12:30 – 3:30)
Curriculum Day	June 8
Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday	June 12
Parent Teacher Interviews	June 29
Last day of Term 2	June 30
Inquiry Incursion	TBA

Student expectations

In Term 2 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

Grade 1 students will continue to be involved in daily reading activities that are reinforcing, and extending their phonemic awareness, oral reading and comprehension skills. This term we will be focusing on comprehension strategies such as 'Predicting' by using clues in the story and retelling a story in our own words (paraphrasing). There will also be a strong emphasis on reading aloud with expression and fluency.



Writing

This term we will explore the **Recount** genre, focusing on writing about experiences with a clear and detailed sequence of events. During the VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) program we will commence our 'Big Writes' which will involve students participating in weekly talk homework the night before. We will continue to explicitly teach spelling strategies from the Little Learners Love Literacy program and handwriting formation each week.



Speaking and Listening

Our programs allow for daily speaking and listening opportunities through class discussions and share times. This term we will introduce the 'Star of the Week' program, where one student will sit in the spotlight and be encouraged to share special things about themselves. Further information regarding 'Star of the Week' will be sent home. This term our discussions will be focussed around cultural diversity.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra



Grade 1 students will continue to develop their understanding of addition and subtraction using a variety of materials and hands on, open ended activities. They solve simple addition and subtraction problems using a range of strategies including counting on from the larger number, doubling and building to the next 10, and finding the difference between two numbers.



Measurement and Geometry

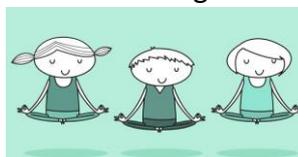
This term the students will be focusing on two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects. They will be able to name, recognise and classify familiar two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects using obvious features. The students will be consolidating their understanding of length by measuring and comparing a variety of different lengths.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry topic this term is 'Who are we and where do we come from?' The unit has a geography and intercultural understandings focus. Students will discover Australia's place in the world through mapping, along with identifying what is familiar and what is different in the ways culturally diverse individuals and families live. Students will investigate a day in the life of a child in another country and what their school and home life is like compared to their own.

Well-being

The main topic of our well-being program in Term 2 is 'Positive Coping' which focuses on managing our fears, anger and stress in productive ways. We will also develop resilience through classroom activities such as 'The Catastrophe Scale' and our swimming program.



What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Art	Sharon			VK, Rose	Art
Science	Sophie	Sharon			Rose, VK
P.E.	Sophie, Rose, VK,		All grade1s		Sharon
Music	Rose			Sophie, VK	Sharon
Computers	Sharon	Rose	Sophie, VK		
Library		VK	Rose		Sharon, Sophie

Physical Education

This term students will continue getting active in an inclusive, safe and fun environment. We will be dodging, bouncing, hitting, kicking and throwing. The focus will continue to be developing fundamental motor skills and, through specific skill development, building up to playing modified games like soccer, hockey, tee ball and skittles. There will be a clear focus on being a part of a team and working on developing the resilience to handle winning and losing in game situations.

Music

This term in music grade 1 students will be continuing to explore improvised melodies using xylophones. We remove notes “e” and “b” from the xylophones which creates a pentatonic scale where whatever notes you hit, in any combination will sound “right”. This frees the students up to develop their technique when playing tuned percussion instruments. We will start some ensemble playing where some students will play simple chord progressions while others will take turns improvising melodies. We will also try to introduce some un-tuned percussion instruments. It should be lots of fun.

Spanish Science

Students in year 1 will reinforce their knowledge of the Spanish language by exploring animals and their characteristics. While observing different animals around the school, students will recognise their common features and the use of their body parts for a particular purpose. While exploring, they will expand their vocabulary on animal body parts and actions.

Spanish Art

In term two students in grades 1 and 2 are going to explore the art concepts of colour, lines and shapes by creating a colour wheel and looking at the work of Mondrian. Students are also going to experiment with the concepts of foreground and background through a unit of Australian landscape. Meanwhile, they will learn the Spanish vocabulary for different habitats including the Australian rainforest and desert. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.

Additional Information



- Please make sure your child has their hat (until the end of April) and drink bottle every 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!