



Year 2 Teaching and Learning – Term 1

Welcome

Welcome to all our Year 2 families for 2018. We hope that you had a lovely school break and have come back to school ready and eager to learn. We are looking forward to a productive and engaging term.

For the first two weeks of the school year students are participating in our Quality Beginnings Program. They are involved in activities to get to know one another and their teachers. The Program emphasises the value of relationships and connectedness as a solid foundation for learning. As a grade, students will establish routines and expectations to ensure that every student feels safe, valued and welcomed in their new environment. From Week 3 curriculum learning will begin – for details see below.

The Year 2 team is happy to have met so many of you already, and we are looking forward to meeting and working with all parents and carers throughout the year. We are excited about having helpers to assist in our classrooms, with the volunteer program kicking off early this term.

Year 2 teaching team: Kathy, Lucy, Mark, Tom and Alex.

Dates to remember

7 February	Parent Information Evening
9 February	Whole School Picnic
1 March	School Photographs
12 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
29 March	Last day of term 2:30 dismissal

Additional Information

- Please notify the school via flexibuzz, phone or written note if your child is absent, on the day of their absence. Please also let the school know in writing if you are planning on taking an extended holiday.
- Please ensure your child has a sun safe hat and a drink bottle every day.
- Library and ICT sessions take place weekly. View your child's specialist timetable outside their classroom window.
- Please ensure that your child has a library bag that is brought to school on their library day.

This term in the classroom

English

Reading and Viewing

- Students will experience a variety of reading activities on a daily basis through our literacy block.
- During the five reading sessions each week, students will be involved in whole class tuning in sessions, followed by differentiated tasks that will build their reading skills.
- This term the focus during reading lessons will be on vocabulary and fluency, learning to 'get knowledge ready' before reading, paraphrase, ask questions about a text, and summarise and review texts.

Writing

- The remainder of the literacy block is made up of five sessions of writing each week. Students are given engaging writing tasks to practise their writing in meaningful contexts.
- Students will participate in VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectors, Openers and Punctuation) and Big Write, and Writer's Workshop sessions, as well as focused lessons on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- This term we will explore text types, with a focus on informative texts and letter.
- Students will also be guided through explicit lessons on handwriting, including correct formation, direction and presentation of both lower and upper case letters.

Speaking and Listening

- Students will be given opportunities to practise their speaking and listening skills during class discussions, share time and formal presentations.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra

- Year 2 students will continue to build solid foundations with their number knowledge through number fluency games and explicit instruction.
- Students will explore place value by partitioning numbers (breaking them down), using number sequences, modelling, representing numbers in different ways and rearranging.
- This term we will also build on students' existing addition strategies and knowledge, and learn to order and count Australian money.

Statistics and Probability

- Year 2 students will investigate the concept of 'chance' in Statistics and Probability.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry topic for Term 1 is Rights and Responsibilities. Key questions we will be focusing on are:

1. What are our roles in the community?
2. What are our responsibilities in the community?
3. What are our rights in the community?
4. How do our roles, responsibilities and rights help to make our community safe?
5. How do our roles, responsibilities and rights help our community function effectively?

This term in specialist classes

Physical Education

This year we will continue to 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. This term's focus will be on technique when skipping, catching, throwing and passing. We will then be putting these skills into game situations. We will be having lots of fun while keeping fit and active!

Music

In term 1, students will use instruments and voices to create and perform musical pieces in small groups and a whole class ensemble setting. We will be using xylophones, ukuleles, keyboards and untuned percussion to play simple chord progressions and accompanying rhythms. Students will be encouraged to make decisions about how to organize and arrange the sounds of the instruments to create moods and effects. We will be focusing on elements of music such as tempo, dynamics and structure and discussing how each of these elements can affect the feeling or mood of a piece of music.

Spanish/Discovery

This term students will explore our school community and explain about it in Spanish by writing simple texts. They will explore the different roles of people at school and get to know them more. Students will also learn how to locate the different places at school and provide oral instructions to others. We will also explore the similarities and differences that our school has to other parts of the world.

To see the great work students do in class, you can check the Spanish website!

<http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>

Spanish/Visual arts

In term one students in grade one and two are going to explore line, colour, shape, texture, pattern and repetition exploring the work of renowned artists such as Mondrian and Kandinsky. Students will explore colour theory by mixing primary colours and using different materials, some expected but some less traditional! 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>.

Grade 2 specialist timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Art	2 Mark		2 Alex	2 Lucy/Kathy	2 Tom
Discovery	2 Alex 2 Tom	2 Mark	2 Lucy/Kathy		
P.E.	2 Alex 2 Lucy/Kathy	2 Tom		2 Mark	
Music	2 Tom 2 Lucy/Kathy				2 Mark 2 Alex
Computers		2 Alex	2 Tom		2 Mark 2 Lucy/Kathy
Library	2 Lucy/Kathy	2 Alex	2 Mark	2 Tom	

Thank you for reading our newsletter! If you have any questions or comments, please see your child's teacher.