

Year 2 Teaching and Learning – Term 2

Making Huge Strokes to Keep Us Water Safe!



Welcome back to term 2.

We hope you all had a restful holiday and are ready for an eventful term.

Listening to the students share their holiday stories, we can only conclude that they all had a well-earned rest.

Teacher Candidates

We would like to welcome the following Melbourne University Teacher Candidates who will be working in our classrooms throughout this term. Grace who is in 2 Mark and Jessica who is in 2 Leah.

We look forward to all the new ideas they will bring to our team throughout the year.

Swimming

In term 2, our Grade 2 students will be undertaking a block of 9 swimming lessons. These lessons begin on the 9th of May and will conclude on the 24th of May. There will be a letter sent home to you in the near future which covers the specifics of days, times and the requirements for your child's swimming sessions.

Parent teacher interviews

This term we have Parent-Teacher Interviews will take on Thursday, 29th June, from 11.00am. We look forward to discussing your child's progress and how they are proceeding through their third year of primary school.

What we are learning this term in the classroom

Reading

- Finding the Main Idea
- Recalling Facts and Details
- Summarising/Paraphrasing
- Understanding Sequence
- Making Predictions
- Comparing and Contrasting
- Distinguishing Fact and Opinion
- Cause and Effect

Writing

- Handwriting
- Big Write
- Writer's Workshop
- Persuasive Text

Speaking and listening

- Drawing on various opportunities to listen and respond to classmates, teachers and adult guests.

Mathematics term overview

- During this second term, students will be engaged in investigations across a range of learning areas in maths including;
- 3 Dimensional Objects,
- Data Collection,
- Mapping,
- Addition, (focussing upon the following strategies; Counting On, Counting Back, Make to 10, 10 and then, Doubles, Near Doubles

Inquiry

'Who are we?'

This term, grade 2 students will be investigating what makes us who we are. Focussing on how Australia is made up of individuals and groups who have both similarities and differences. We will be looking at how language, culture, religion, values and connection to land and the place we live, can help form our identity. Early on in the term we will be visiting CERES to kick off our interest in our notions of identity.

Well-being

To help foster student well-being, this term our grade 2 students will be undertaking activities which help them in the following areas;

- Discover and nurture their personal strengths
- How to problem solve
- Appropriate ways and times to seek help
- Promote positive gender relations

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

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 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.

Spanish Science

Students in year 2 will reinforce their knowledge of the Spanish language by exploring animals and their habitats. While comparing animals found in South America and Australia, students will recognise the common features in animals and plants. They will also explore the characteristics of the life stages in animals. While exploring, they will expand their vocabulary on animal body parts, actions as well as the vocabulary of parts of the plants. As well as this, they will be able to identify the similarities and differences between English and Spanish cultures.

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>.