



Dear Parents & Families,

Welcome back to Term 2 in 2017! Our feet have hit the ground running in the first week and the Year 2 students have demonstrated an encouraging *Growth Mindset* towards their learning with quite a bit of revision and assessment.

**Theme**

In Term 2, we are continuing with our overarching theme is *'How Things Change in our World'*. We will be looking at the passing of time and how things, people and processes change and evolve. This will connect with our History (terms 1 & 2) [and Geography, terms 3 & 4] topics, Science, STEM and Powerful Learning program.

**History**

In History, we will continue learning about Colonel William Light and the city of Adelaide, as well as other significant people in Australian History and how these relate to us today. We will also incorporate relative timelines.

**Science**

*'Chemical Sciences'*

In Science, we will be focusing on the Lifecycles of Plants and Animals. Our Lifecycles topic will draw on aspects from both History and Language & Literacy.

**English**

**Language & Literacy**

*Writing/Genre Focus:*

Students will focus on the following genres: (1) **Information Report** (a means of presenting information about something. It describes an entire class of things, whether natural or made) and **Sequential Explanation** (How or why things are as they are, or how things work) and (2), continue with **Recount** (1. retelling an experience or event). These will involve many scientific and creative experiences, integrating Science and Literacy. It will also include scaffolding and explicit teaching of specific writing processes, such as language features, grammar, punctuation and handwriting.

Ongoing **Reading Comprehension** strategies are explicitly taught to assist students to extract meaning from texts. **THRASS** methodology for teaching of spelling is implemented from Year 2 once children have a foundation in phonics. Alphabetic and phonic knowledge including short and long vowels, consonants, digraphs and blends will continue with our **'Words Their Way'** spelling program to continually develop vocabulary growth and spelling proficiency. Students will also continue to develop their independent reading skills in the **Guided Reading** program and use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning about key events and ideas in the text.

*#See note sent home week 1, Term 2*

Language and Literacy also incorporates comprehending texts through listening, reading and viewing, interpreting and learning texts. Developing processes to support **listening comprehension skills** is an ongoing key focus this term, along with problem solving skills and learning to work independently.

**Mathematics**

In Maths we will be focusing on:

- **Number & Place Value** [ongoing throughout the year]
  - Investigating number sequences
  - Recognise, model & represent numbers to 1000
  - Explore connections between addition & subtraction
  - Representing multiplication groups & arrays
  - Representing division as grouping into equal sets
- **Fractions & Decimals**
  - Recognising and interpreting common uses of halves, quarters, eighths of shapes & collections
- **Location & Transformation**
  - Interpret simple maps of familiar locations and identify the relative positions of key features
  - Investigate the effect of one-step slides with and without digital technologies
  - Identify and describe half and quarter turns
- **Shape**
  - Describe and draw two-dimensional shapes, with and without digital technologies
  - Describe the features of three-dimensional objects

**STEM**

**Science/Technology/Engineering and Mathematics**

'STEM' is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines - **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics** - in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Students will have the opportunity, with support & assistance, to apply their knowledge & tap into their creative side, based on current learning themes.

**Digital Technologies**

Students will follow, design & represent a sequence of steps and decisions needed to solve simple problems. They will recognise and explore patterns in data and represent data as pictures, symbols and diagrams. Computers and iPads are incorporated throughout student learning.

**Health & PE**

**Visual Arts**

This term students in Year 2 will be developing striking and fielding skills through small sided games with a focus on technique and accuracy.

**Performing Arts**

In visual art this term our focus will be mainly centred on collage and paper-machè.

**Health / Keeping Safe Curriculum**

Students will be developing their aural skills by listening for changes in musical pieces. They will discuss what they hear using musical terms.

The following two focus areas explored this term are:

- The right to be safe
- Relationships

*#Further information in Keeping Safe letter was sent to parents in Term 1#*

**REMINDERS/ FYI:**

**Library**

Library is every Wednesday before recess. The students are allowed to borrow two books to read at home. Library books can be at home for two weeks. Please ensure that your child brings their books in their document folders on Wednesdays.

**Buddies**

This term the students will be working with a buddy from Ms Penny's class for special events/ celebrations [TBA].

**Reading**

***# Please listen to your child read each night.***

***\*Please ensure your child brings their document folder to school everyday***

**SeeSaw**

Seesaw is a student-driven digital portfolio that empowers students to independently document what they are learning at school. The students can capture their learning in many forms.

**Maths Monster**

**\*Handout given to students via communication books on 10-2-17, Term 1**

Maths for Learning Inclusion program: student participation in recognising maths all around us.

**Skoolbag**

Skoolbag is a great school to parent communication tool. You can download the app from the app store. Please go to [www.skoolbag.com.au](http://www.skoolbag.com.au) for further information.

**Hats**

Hats are only compulsory in Terms 1 & 4, although we do encourage students to wear hats on sunny days. Please check that your child has a school hat.

**Healthy Fruit Snack**

Please ensure that your child has a serve of fresh fruit/ vegetable **each day** to have in class. *No other snacks are permitted during this time.*

**~ 2017 ~**

**Term 2**

**Dates to REMEMBER**

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May - Mother's Day Stalls**

**19<sup>th</sup> May - EXCURSION to Montefiore Hill**

**22<sup>nd</sup> May - Pupil Free Day**

**31<sup>st</sup> May to 6<sup>th</sup> June - Library Closed**

**12<sup>th</sup> June - Public Holiday (Queen's Birthday)**

**5<sup>th</sup> July - School Photos**

**7<sup>th</sup> July - Last day of school term - DISMISSAL 2pm**