



Dear Parents & Families,

Welcome back to Term 4 in 2017! Our feet have hit the ground running this term and the students have already produced some fantastic work. Our Year 2 class are a group of wonderful curious minds and I look forward to another term of great learning in the spirit of positive Growth Mindsets.

'Learning & Caring for Life'

Theme

In Term 4, the Year 2 students will become 'Travel Agents', investigating different parts of the globe. This unit of work will take place against a backdrop of our recycling awareness, as we continue our '**War on Waste**' theme. Our studies will be integrated with current learning in Literacy, STEAM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Mathematics] and Powerful Learning program.

Geography

In Geography, Year 2 will be exploring the connections of people in Australia to other places, both in Australia and across the world. The students will be 'Travel Agents', where they will promote and present their learning of a particular country to inform an audience of its wonders. This unit of work will integrate with other subject areas, such as Language & Literacy, Mathematics, Art and Performing Arts.

Science 'Earth & Space Sciences'

We will be focusing on the affects of push and pull in the Physical Sciences and how forces are used in our everyday lives. Students will participate in guided investigations to predict, explore and design solutions to reflect their understanding.

English Language & Literacy

Writing/Genre Focus:

Students will primarily focus on the following genres: (1) **Exposition** (An exposition puts forward an argument or a particular point of view) (2) **Narrative** (Telling or creating a story to entertain) along with (3), a continuation of **Recount** (retelling an experience or event). These will involve some thematic and creative experiences, integrated with our Geography and Literacy learning areas. It will also include scaffolding and explicit teaching of specific writing processes, such as language features, grammar, punctuation and handwriting. Other text types will also be explored, as a source of comparison.

Ongoing **Reading Comprehension** strategies will be revisited and practised to assist students to extract meaning from texts. **THRASS** methodology for the teaching of spelling will continue, as will 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.

Additionally, Language and Literacy incorporates comprehending texts through listening, reading and viewing, interpreting and learning texts. Developing processes to support **listening comprehension skills** is an ongoing focus, 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

quarters, eighths of shapes & collections

- **Location & Transformation**
- Interpret simple maps of familiar locations & identify the relative positions of key features [in correspondence to *Geography*]

- **Patterns & Algebra**
- Describe patterns with numbers & identify missing elements.
- Solve problems by using sentences for addition/subtraction.

#General REVISION of MATH areas in 2017

STEM / STEAM Design & Technology

Science/Technology/Engineering [Art] and Mathematics

'STEM' or 'STEAM' is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines - **Science, Technology, Engineering [Art] 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 continue to follow, design & represent a sequence of steps and decisions needed to solve simple problems. They will identify how common digital systems [hardware and software] are used to meet specific purposes. They use digital systems to represent simple patterns in data in different ways.

Health & PE

This term the Year 2 students will be developing basic game skills, teamwork, rotating positions and understanding of safety when using a variety of different equipment through tennis, cricket & hockey.

Visual Arts

In Visual Art this term we will continue to explore composition and colour, but our main focus will be based around simple print making techniques. We will also be working on small craft activities.

Performing Arts

Students are introduced to a range of composers and their famous works. They are developing the ability to discuss and respond to music using more formal language choices, such as pitch and other terminologies.

Health / Keeping Safe Curriculum

The following focus areas explored this term are:

- Recognising safe and unsafe secrets
- Practising Protective Strategies
- Persistence

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

REMINDERS/ FYI:

Library

Library is on MONDAYS at 2:30 pm. 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 **MONDAY**.

Buddies

This term the students will be working with a buddy from Ms Alana's class for some learning experiences/ special occasions/ 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. Teachers can also share current learning experiences in the classroom.

#Details to join class can be resent to parents upon request#

Maths Monster

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 for further information.

Hats

Hats are only compulsory in Terms 1 & 4. 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 4
Dates to
REMEMBER

Monday 30th October - Governing Council Meeting

Thursday 2nd November - *Count Us In* music performance 11:40

Friday 24th November [Week 6] - *SPORTSDAY*

Thursday 12th December - Year 7 Graduation

Wednesday 13th December - School Reports sent home

Friday 15th December - Last day of school term & year - *DISMISSAL* 2pm