

Grade 1/2 Newsletter

Term 2 - 2018

Welcome Back

Welcome back! We hope that you had a lovely holiday and are back into the swing of things. We have lots of exciting things planned this term and are looking forward to all the learning that is going to take place.

As the weather is still warm and we are a Sunsmart school there will still be days where your child will be required to wear a hat. They will be notified when based off the UV rating that day.

Please remember to look on our Coburg West Primary School website and Seesaw to see what our students have been doing.

Encouraging Independence

Throughout the year it is important that students develop the life skills of independence. Our home reading process will support the development of independence. We are really proud of the way the Grade 1/2s have been changing their own take home readers.

COMPASS

Please remember to keep an eye on Compass through the school website for information pertinent to your child/ren. This will include information about upcoming sessions or excursions. If your child is absent, please ensure you update Compass as soon as possible.



Grade 1/2 Teachers

Lily Z. Room 21

Philippa B. & Libby S.
Room 22

Sioborne Y. Room 23

Rhiannon M. Room
24

Stefanie A. Room 32

Lee B. Room 33

Rachel E. Room 34

Dates For Your Diary

★ **Monday 4th May
INCURSION-
Around The
World and
Back**

★ **Thursday
7th June
INCURSION-
African
Drumming**

Learning

School Value for Term Two:

This term will be exploring the school value of Respect in depth.

Reading

This term in Reading we have been focusing on literal comprehension skills. These types of questions are sometimes called “Right There” questions and the answers are directly stated in the book. Students are becoming very familiar with key question words including Who? What? When? Where? They are improving the quality of their oral and written answers by answering in full sentences using the strategy “Turn The Question Around” or TTQA for short. We are not only reading narrative texts but will focus on information texts later in the term. Students will be encouraged to think, remember and understand what they have read by sharing newly learnt information after reading an information text - whether it be written or electronic. There will also be a focus on the features of information texts and how they differ from story books. Students will learn about information text features such as the contents page, diagrams, glossary and index and will discuss their purposes. In addition to the daily reading hour the 1/2 unit has introduced silent reading to develop students reading stamina. Many students are bringing wonderful books from home however we ask that they are labelled with your child/ren’s name. We thank you for your continual support in our Home Reading program. Nightly reading with an adult provides wonderful opportunities for students to build on their reading fluency, word problem solving skills and comprehension.

Writing

This term, the writing program has been focussing on descriptive language. Students have been learning about nouns, adjectives and descriptive phrases to add detail and create a visual picture for the reader. We continue to focus on correctly punctuating our sentences with full stops and capital letters as well as using a variety of simple and compound sentences in our writing. Soon we will be starting story writing. If you are keen to get a head start, read some narrative stories with your child at home and discuss the setting, characters, problem and solution of the story or retell the most important parts of the story in sequence. This will help your child understand the features of a narrative and the structure, which they will be able to transfer to their writing.

We also encourage your child to continue to practise their spelling words. We recommend students practise their words a minimum of three times a week.

In the past teachers have found the more support a student receives at home with their spelling, the more gains the student has in their spelling development. It also supports their writing as students are not fretting over the spelling of words, but focusing on their ideas and sentence structure.

Mathematics

Numeracy at Coburg West is broken down into 3 categories based on the Australian Curriculum:

★Number and Algebra

★Measurement and Geometry

★Statistics and Probability

Number and Algebra is of utmost importance in the early stages of schooling and therefore will be taught most of the time. Number can be further broken down into:

★ Operations including addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and their inverse relationships. This could be written calculations or mental computation.

During Term Two our focus will be primarily on Addition and Multiplication. There will be a number of homework suggestions on the Coburg West website, under Curriculum, so please keep checking.

Mathematics homework can be informal and offers lots of ‘real life’ opportunities at home. Please use analogue clocks whenever you can to discuss time. Use calendars, timetables and discuss the temperature. Cooking is another great way to start the discussion about litres, millilitres, grams and kilograms. Taking long trips in the car will also lend itself to discussing kilometres and speed. Continue to look for maths in real life and have fun with it wherever you can.

Inquiry

This term, our Inquiry topic is the Commonwealth, starting with exploring the recent Commonwealth Games and then leading into what is the Commonwealth. Students will take further a country of their own choice. Several incursions have been organised to embrace this topic.

A reminder about weekly home learning tasks:

Reading - Remember to read aloud every night.

Spelling - Continue practising fortnightly spelling words by choosing

Other Information

activities from our spelling rubric

Maths - In Term 2 students are to complete addition timed sheets that can be found under Curriculum / Maths Home Learning. There are printed sheets available near your child's classroom. Students have been told which number facts they should be practising. Feel free to contact your child's teacher if unsure.

Happy Home Learning!

Parent Helpers

To ensure student safety, all parent helpers are required to have a Working with Children Photo Check. Each parent helper is required to wear their Working with Children card in the lanyards provided in each classroom as well as sign in to the office at the beginning of each visit. Our office is keeping a record of all parent helpers so if you have not yet done so, could you please take your Working with Children check card to the office to be photocopied. Lanyards and parent identification is to be worn for the entire time you are helping in the classroom in addition to signing in the parent helper log. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

Staff Car Parks

To maintain student safety, pedestrians are not permitted to enter or exit through the front or rear car park. Parents and friends are not permitted to use the car parks.

Dogs

Many of our students suffer from severe allergies including animal hair. As stated in the weekly newsletter there are no dogs allowed in the school yard.

Reminders

★ A reminder that a hat is required to play outside in Term 1.

Other Information

- ★ **Could all students please bring a box of tissues for their classroom.**
- ★ **If parents/caregivers have any questions or concerns regarding their child please make an appointment time with your child's classroom teacher.**
- ★ **It is very important that reader covers are returned every day.**
- ★ **Brain Food: (fruit or vegetable only) Please send a small manageable piece of fruit or vegetable that can be eaten as 'brain food'.**
- ★ **Birthday Celebrations: Due to a number of reasons, including the food allergies we have in the 1/2 area, we are asking that families don't bring in cupcakes/lolly bags to give out on birthdays. Children's birthdays will be celebrated with their classmates through singing or a birthday sticker.**
- ★ **Due to safety concerns in the yard we discourage foods that contain sticks such as lollipops.**
- ★ **Please do not send your child/ren to school with electronic games.**
- ★ **At the end of the school day please wait downstairs in the breezeway to collect your child. This is for safety reasons as hallways and stairs can become very congested.**

Lateness – If your child is late to school please ensure that they sign in at the office prior to coming to the classroom. Your child will be given a 'late' pass to give to their teacher.