

Dear Stage 1 parents and carers,

Welcome back to Term 2, 2023! We are ready for an exciting and productive term ahead. Below, you will find an overview of teaching and learning programs, class routines and expectations:

English

Stage 1 will be provided with numerous opportunities to develop their public speaking skills through stage and classroom learning activities, including the presentation of investigation projects.

Students will participate in class reading groups, where they will engage in modelled, guided and independent learning experiences. Reading groups will be differentiated to cater for student abilities. 'Take home' readers will continue to be provided to students weekly.

This term, Stage 1 will be viewing, appreciating and studying quality literature to develop their English language skills. They will be learning about various texts including: procedural writing and poetry. Students will be experimenting with various textual features through creating their own texts.

Mathematics

Students will be investigating and exploring:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| - Representing whole numbers | - Area |
| - Addition | - Length |
| - Subtraction | - 2D shapes |
| - Division | - Mass |
| - Multiplication | - Data |

All Mathematics teaching involves students learning through hands-on experiences, problem-solving and mathematical investigations.

For further information on the topics covered please follow this link to the NSW Stage 1 Mathematics syllabus:

<https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/learning-areas/mathematics/mathematics-k-10-2022>

Investigations

Stage 1 will continue to participate in Investigations. This is a program that merges the hands-on creative learning of Investigations, with the organisational skills that students will need in middle primary to participate in ProjectNEST. Students will practise the 21st Century skills of communication, critical thinking and creativity, as they move through a variety of learning stations. Learning stations are centred around student interests and intentionally constructed by teachers to consolidate the learning gained in explicit teaching sessions of Literacy, Numeracy and History. We have found Investigations time to be one where students approach their learning with great joy and we are excited to share it with Stage 1 this year!

We appreciate any donations of small boxes for Investigation construction activities this year.

History

Students will be investigating the topic of *Schools in the Past*. Students will begin to develop a sense of chronology, investigate the diversity of school life and compare school in the past to those of the present. They will use historical tools such as timelines, and primary sources such as photographs and artefacts. This unit also includes an excursion to the *NSW Schoolhouse Museum of Public Education* where students will be immersed in school life from the 1880's.

Science and Technology/STEAM

This term, Stage 1 students will further develop their understanding of forces and energy by focussing our inquiry on the different forms of energy around us and how they are detected. We will investigate how sound is produced using a variety of different materials. Students will build an understanding of how sound moves as they explore and manipulate a range of materials and the sounds they produce. They will use their scientific understanding of sound to design and produce instruments of altering pitch to achieve a purpose in communicating.

Creative Arts

This term, our Visual Arts program will be delivered by Mrs Bowman. Students will continue to study the elements of art. Through line, shape, colour and form, they will be supported to produce a variety of artworks using mixed media, collage, watercolour and oil pastels. Music will be taught by classroom teachers where students will sing, play and move to music, demonstrating an awareness of their own capability in using voice and other sound sources. They organise sounds into simple structures and begin representing creative ideas symbolically.

Library

Library lessons will be taught by Ms Whelan. Students are able to borrow two books each week to take home. The library is also open at lunch time and before school, if they would like to borrow and return more frequently.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

In Personal Development and Health, students will be learning about emotional literacy and exploring how they can act in a productive and respectful way in different environments and social situations. Students will practise social problem-solving skills, including assertive communication, active listening, compromising, and emotion management.

In Physical Education, students will be continuing to learn to skip, overarm throw and leap properly and effectively in a variety of games and activities.

Child Protection will be taught by your child's teacher during Term 2. This unit teaches the children about different body parts, positive relationships as well as strategies to keep themselves safe in a variety of situations.

NB: Classes will rotate with specialist teachers on a fortnightly basis.

Homework

Stage 1 teachers have identified the need for a targeted and specific sight word and spelling focus. Students will be assessed at several points throughout the term, with these results being used as the basis for their spelling homework lists. Homework will consist of the Term 2 spelling matrix where students can complete any of the given activities or come up with ones of their own. Students are encouraged to practise their words daily and be able to read and spell them both in isolation and during writing tasks.

Students will receive login details for an online numeracy program called *Mangahigh*, as well as, the literacy application *Reading Eggs*. Students will work through these activities at their own pace, and these will not be marked by teachers.

Home Reading

We strongly encourage that each child should be reading for 10-15 minutes every evening. This should be an enjoyable experience for both you and your child. We ask that you take the time to listen to your child read the books that they bring home, or books from your home collection.

Quality picture books often have a richer vocabulary and are more interesting to read, so these are encouraged when your child is able to make the transition from levelled readers. Some children are also reading chapter books. Please ensure that you chat with them about what they have read to help them understand any new vocabulary and to make sure that they comprehend what they read.

Classroom Communal Items

All stationery items are for communal use within the classroom as Stage 1 students do not use personal pencil cases.

Option: if you are in the position to assist, please organise the following items listed below for communal use;

- Tissues
- Disinfectant wipes

Toys and keychains

Students are not encouraged to bring toys to school as they are often lost, stolen or damaged. Keychains must stay on students' bags instead of being attached to hats or clothing. Keychains are frequently being used as toys and are also often lost or damaged.

We look forward to working with you and sharing in your child's learning!

The Stage 1 Team, 2022