



**Learning
Community
Members**

1N - Nancy Di Tello
1L - Liz McNerney
1J - Janine Gardiner

Important dates

February

15 - Meet the teacher /
interviews
21 - Dance Incursion
23 - Family Picnic Night

March

7 - School Photos
13 - Labour Day Public
Holiday
30 - Grade 1 Camp
Night
31 - End of Term

Homework:

20 minutes of reading
each night is an
essential component
of Year 1 homework.

When the Mathematics
program begins,
students will be
encouraged to
complete tasks at
home if internet
access is available.

In February students
will receive a
fortnightly Homework
grid. These activities
are to be completed
over the two week
period.

Welcome to Term 1, 2017!

We are all very excited to begin the year with such a buzz around the Year 1 community! It is wonderful to see all children coming to school with a positive attitude and ready for learning. This newsletter contains information on the content of classroom programs and what the focus is for each curriculum area:

Reading:

This term children will continue to develop the following habits of independent readers:-

- Children are reading for increasing amounts of times
- Continue to practise decoding skills including sounding out, looking for chunks and sliding through a word.
- Developing our comprehension of the books we read.
- Children to establish the routine of reading **at least 20 minutes every night** (this includes texts and eBooks).

Children's Take-Home Books need to be brought back to school daily to use in our reading program. Students will be changing their Take-Home Books weekly.

Writing and Spelling:

We are exploring our *Writer's Notebook* this year. These are very special books writers use, in order to gain inspiration for their writing pieces. If you have any photos, tickets or mementos, please collect these and send them to school throughout the year for our *Writer's Notebook*, these memories make great stories!

This term for Writing we will be focussing on the following:-

- Retelling stories and events in sequence.
- Correct use of full stops, capital letters, correct letter formation and even spacing in our writing.
- Participate in weekly spelling investigations, using sounds, letter blends and spelling patterns to assist them when spelling unfamiliar words.

Mathematics:

During Maths sessions we will explore real life mathematical problems using a range of efficient strategies to solve these. Counting patterns, place value and addition are all areas we will be looking into this term as well as time, shape, location and data graphs.

Inquiry Topic:

The Year 1 Learning Community is exploring what it means to follow our KEFAR values in our Inquiry unit, 'Our Friend KEFAR'. The students will participate in activities to develop the following understandings:

- I understand kindness is a value and how to be kind to others
- I understand encouragement is a value and how to encourage others
- I understand fairness is a value and how to be fair
- I understand acceptance is a value and how to be accepting of others
- I understand respect is a value and how to be respectful of others
- I can work co-operatively in a team and within our community

Student Wellbeing - Bounce Back and Friendly Schools Plus:

This term we are developing Circle Time in our classrooms. Circle Time is an opportunity for children to share their thoughts and feelings; and learn how to listen to and respect their classmate's opinions and ideas on various social topics. This term we will be exploring 'Self and Emotional Awareness'. In particular we will look at how we can be similar/different, our feelings and helpful and rational thinking when making choices.