



Learning Community Members

1/2B Jovana Bulajic
1/2D Debbie McKenna
1/2L Liz McNerney
1/2J Janine Gardiner
1/2S Suada Dzaferovic

Important dates

February

13 – Meet the teacher

March

1 – Family Picnic Night
16 - School Photos
12 - Labour Day Public Holiday
20 – Open Morning 9 – 9:45am
29 – End of Term

Homework

It is an expectation that a minimum of 20 minutes of reading is completed each night.

Students are encouraged to complete Mathematics tasks at home if internet access is available at least a few times a week.

Reminders:

Arrival – Students should arrive at school at 8:50am, ready to commence learning at 9 o'clock when our literacy block begins. Children who arrive late miss important teaching time and it distracts others from learning.

Organisation – Please help your child form good organisational skills by reminding them to bring their iPad and book bag to school each day and return their library book each week.

Welcome to Term 1, 2018

We are all very excited to begin the year with such a buzz around the Year 1/2 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 the focus for each curriculum area:

Reading:

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

- continue to build their reading stamina to help them become independent readers
- developing strategies to help them select 'Just Right' books for reading
- continue to practise decoding skills including sounding out, looking for chunks and sliding through a word
- further developing their understanding of the books they read through prediction, visualising and think aloud
- 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
- The Writing Process; Planning, Drafting, Editing and Publishing
- 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. Students work individually and in small groups to solve problems in the following areas: counting patterns, place value, time and location.

Inquiry Topic:

The Year 1/2 Learning Community is exploring 'What is Mindfulness?' in our Inquiry unit.

The students will participate in activities to develop the following understandings:

- We are learning to identify our emotions.
- We are learning to understand how our emotions impact on us.
- We are learning to identify our physical triggers and how they affect our emotions.
- We are learning to become happier, healthier and compassionate
- We are learning to work through our problems in a calm way.

iPads:

It is an expectation that all students have their own iPad as part of the 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) Program. Students are required to have all the listed Apps on their device. These Apps are used throughout the year and are very important to our program. A hard copy of the 2018 App list will be sent home shortly.