

Year 1 and 2 News

Term 1 2018

Welcome back!



It has been a great start to the year and we are very pleased with how all Year 1 and 2 students are settling into the new routines.

We look forward to working with you this year! Please feel free to come and make an appointment to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have.

Amy McNeill, Claudia De Carlo, Lyn Lockie, Jess Oakey and Carrie Owen.

Important Dates:

13 th Feb-	Pancake Day Getting To Know You Conversations
15 th Feb-	Getting To Know You Conversations
17 th Feb-	Welcome back event
12 th Mar-	Labour Day Holiday
13 th Mar-	Curriculum Day
29 th Mar-	Last Day of Term 1

REMINDERS:



- Students are encouraged to bring to school each day:
 - a **water bottle** to keep on their table to drink
 - cut up **fruit or vegetables in a container** to eat at 'Brain Food Time' to keep energy levels up.
 - **green communication folder** containing any notices and take home reading book
 - a school hat that is clearly labeled. It is important that every student has their own hat.
- We encourage students to bring a rubbish free lunch every day. Any rubbish taken to school must be taken home. Classrooms only have paper recycle and chicken food bins.
- The Canteen is operational on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Lunch orders can be placed online. Canteen information and special days are advertised in the weekly newsletter or via a Compass post.
- Students are expected to wear **correct school uniform**, this now includes black school shoes or black runners. Please ensure hair ties and clips are the correct colours.
- **Homework** will be handed out every Monday and is due on the following Friday.
- Year 2 students who bring an **iPad** to school, must hand it to their teacher before school starts. Parents and students must have read the iPad agreement and consent via Compass. A required apps list will be sent out soon.



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READING

This term we are focusing on increasing each student's ability to read independently and enjoyment of reading. To maximise the amount of time students are reading, students will be participating in a daily independent reading workshop. These sessions begin with the teacher modeling a reading strategy to the students, then students move into an independent reading task or a guided reading group with the teacher. During these sessions students will practice using various CAFÉ (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary) reading strategies.

Specific CAFÉ reading strategies studied this term will include: visualising, retelling the story, prediction and text features of non-fiction books.

- **Year 1** will also focus on recognition of the Magic Words in a variety of contexts
- **Year 2** will also review Magic Words and work on expanding their vocabulary.



WRITING



This term we are developing each student's love and enjoyment of writing. To increase student engagement with writing, students will be participating in a daily independent writing workshop. These sessions begin with the teacher modeling how to write different pieces to the students, then students move into an independent writing task. During these sessions students will practice using the writing process (Prewriting, Drafting, Revising, Editing and Publishing) to produce a variety of written pieces.

Specific writing focuses this term include: using a Writer's Notebook, following the writing process, increasing student choice for what they choose to write, writing narratives and writing information reports. **Year 2** will also be incorporating descriptive language in their writing pieces.



MATHEMATICS



To develop each student's mathematical abilities, students participate in daily mathematics lessons that involve a number sense game, specific teaching of a concept, a problem solving task that involves everyday mathematical situations and lots of discussions about strategies.

Specific mathematical concepts studied this term include:

Year 1

- recognising counting and ordering numbers to 100
- counting by 2's, 5's and 10s to 100 and from different starting points.
- simple addition and subtraction

Year 2

- recognising and ordering numbers to 1000
- number patterns
- developing mental strategies for solving simple addition and subtraction equations

Year 1 & 2: 2D and 3D shapes, length, time and graphing

HANDWRITING

Our handwriting focuses for this term will include using correct pencil grip, correct letter size and formation and good posture whilst writing. We will all be using Victorian Cursive.



SPELLING



Year 1

- will focus on word structure - cvc, ccvc, cvcc etc (c = consonant, v = vowel)
- revising the writing high frequency words with the objective that these words are to be spelt correctly at all times

Year 2

- spelling lessons will focus the weekly SoundWaves sound, blends and commonly used words whilst writing

GEOGRAPHY

This semester, our Geography unit investigates our local environment and its natural features such as parks, gardens, farms and constructed features such as roads and buildings.

Key inquiry questions:

What are the different features of places?
How can we care for places?



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SCIENCE



This term, our *Up, down and all around* unit provides opportunities for students to look at changes in the features of our environment both land and sky. Students will investigate the natural processes, such as the weather, and human activities such as construction, that have effects on our environment.

PERFORMING ARTS

During Performing Arts, the children in Year 1 and 2 will sing together and explore different rhythms using body percussion as well as tuned and untuned percussion instruments. They will also explore pitch and rhythm concepts through movement. We will learn about the Treble Clef and begin to learn how pitch and rhythm are represented by musical notation.

The children will also explore the dramatic arts through small skits and plays.

Nicole Lee- Music/ Performing Arts Teacher



VISUAL ARTS



Students will attend a weekly art lesson in the art room. The aim is to provide stimulating learning experiences that promote self-expression, provide for creativity and imagination in addition to the development of particular skills. This term, the children will be discussing the upcoming Warrandyte Festival and using paints and mixing colours to create a 'Warrandyte' bush scene. We will then add a variety of collage materials and use oil pastels to create different layers. Next, we will look at 'Autumn' and create some Autumn pictures using warm Autumn coloured crayons and leaves. We will also explore the theme using Sunprints (a light sensitive paper that develops in water.) Finally we will make a woven Easter Egg card.

Michelle Bethell- Visual Art Teacher

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MANDARIN



Welcome to the year of the dog! In Term One the students will reinforce and extend what they have already learned. The language focus will be basic greetings, formal greetings in a classroom setting, special greetings used during Chinese New Year time. They will revise the numbers 1-10 and learn to count to 20 in Mandarin. They will also learn to name some of the animals and describe them in simple Chinese sentences.

Within the cultural context, students will learn more about the Chinese New Year (Spring Festival). They will explore this festival through listening to the stories about Chinese New Year and the twelve zodiac signs, watching videos about why people celebrate the New Year and how it is celebrated in China and in Melbourne, etc.

Students will learn the Chinese language and culture through a variety of class activities such as songs, games, stories, role plays, crafts, etc. Students will have fun and continue enjoying Mandarin learning.

Bian Lao shi (Limei Bian) – Mandarin Teacher

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Let the Games Begin! Year 1 and 2 students will start the year participating in the POPS Winter Olympics and will learn about the history, significance and the sports and disciplines included in this major international sporting event. Students will get their skates on (paper plates) and participate in fun modified events such as speed skating, biathlon, snowboarding and ice hockey. Following that, students will participate in Cricket and develop basic skills in batting, bowling and fielding. Particular emphasis will be on the fundamental motor skill 'overarm throw'. Students will be encouraged to 'throw for distance' so that they are developing their ability to follow through with their throw.

Following Cricket, students will participate in Target Games and will learn the key skills and strategies for games such as Croquet, Golf, Bocce, Bowling and Finska (log throwing game from Finland that reinforces number skills). Towards the end of the term, students will participate in Minor games and Cooperative games that require students to work and cooperate with one another, in order to solve a problem or succeed in a team.

Stephanie Carbone- Physical Education Teacher

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Year 1 and 2 Timetable

	1M	1/2D	2OA	2OW
Art (Mrs Bethell)	Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday
Performing Arts (Mrs Lee)	Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday
PE (Mrs Carbone)	Wednesday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Mandarin (Mrs Bian)	Wednesday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Science	Monday	Monday	Thursday	Thursday
Library	Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Junior Choir (Mrs Lee)	Tuesday			
1 & 2 Sport	Friday			

Parent Helpers

A reminder to all parents who volunteer to help at school, you must have a current Working With Children's Check. All staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child related work, are required to register a current Working with Children Check at the office. All helpers **MUST** sign in at the office.

