

Grade 2 Newsletter

Term 1 - 2023

Welcome Back

Welcome back! We hope that you had a lovely summer with your kids and have settled into the new year. We have all settled well into our makeshift rooms and are so proud of the kids for being resilient and flexible with the many adjustments of school this year. We are very happy to be starting the year off with such a wonderful group of students. The Grade 2 Team has some exciting things planned, and look forward to a year filled with fun learning opportunities.



Communication

Seesaw will be the Grade 2 Team's main communication for reminders or updates. Student logins will soon be sent home, however please let your class teacher know if you need another copy. In addition, please remember to keep an eye on Compass through the school website for information about upcoming sessions, incursions or excursions. If your child is absent, please ensure you update Compass as soon as possible.

School Values

We are Safe
We are Respectful
We are Learners
We Care about Each Other

Encouraging Independence

We have been encouraging our students to be responsible for their belongings throughout the school day. Please encourage your child's independence, regarding home readers. Ensure your child brings their home reading book back to class each morning. Our classroom routines are that students will exchange their home readers each Friday morning and select enough books for the week ahead. In addition to this students will be given log in details for PM online readers if they choose.

Grade 2 Teachers
2C Ashleigh Cavoli

Room 32

2F Natasha Fonte De Vos

Room 33

2N Matt Niciak

Room 34

Dates for your Diary

February 15th

Curriculum Day

February 22nd

International Womens Day

March 8th

Meet the Teacher

March 13th

Labour Day

March 17th

**International Day
Against Violence And
Bullying**

April 12th

Last Day Of Term 1

Our Learning Areas

Reading

This term in Reading we will continue to work on developing reading skills, engagement and goal setting behaviour. We will be looking at strategies for reading unfamiliar words, building our reading stamina in Independent Reading, and retelling to show understanding. Students will also be working on finding the main idea in both fiction and non-fiction texts.

Students are encouraged to select texts that are 'Just Right' for them during independent reading time. The Five Finger Test can be a great way for students to determine if a text is 'Just Right'.

We thank you for your support of our home reading program. Nightly reading with an adult, grandparent, older sibling or friend provides wonderful opportunities for students to build on their reading fluency, word problem solving skills and comprehension.

Writing

This term students will be focusing on the key aspects of sentence structure by learning how to correctly include full stops, capital letters, describing words and other forms of punctuation in sentences. Students are given a variety of activities and opportunities to learn and consolidate these fundamental aspects of sentence structure that are important for successful writing.

Later in the term, students will be writing about familiar experiences. They will be introduced to the formal structure of a recount text and explore different sentence starters and vocabulary choices to retell events in an engaging way. In addition to this students will be exploring the mechanics of what makes great writing using the 6+1 traits of quality writing.

Structured Word Inquiry

This term we will be looking at phonemes (sounds) and graphemes (letters) that make the sound. After each introduction session students will work on this weekly through their reading and writing sessions. Our aim is to improve their knowledge of the English Language and improve reading, writing and spelling outcomes.

Inquiry

This term the students are investigating light and sounds. Students will explore manmade and natural forms of light and sound as well as how light and sound are received and altered. They will learn about their senses as they explore, investigate and manipulate light and sound this term. During this term they will be conducting experiments such as making reflections and investigating shadows throughout the day.

The Five Finger Test

Open to a page in the middle of the book and read one whole page. Make a fist and for each word you come to that you do not know hold up a finger.

0-1 Fingers	Easy
2-3 Fingers	Just Right
4-5 Fingers	Difficult



Mathematics

This term our Number and Algebra focus will start with looking at the concept of counting and patterns which includes building the confidence to sequence numbers and skip count. This will lead into exploring the importance of Place Value where the students will recognise, model, read and order numbers.

In Measurement and Geometry, the focus will be on using calendars, which will continue through the entire year. Students will also be learning the order of the days of the week and months of the year, as well as the four seasons. In the later part of the term, students will be furthering their understanding of capacity this term through experimentation with different-sized containers. They will use various manipulatives to compare different items in a number of hands-on activities and games.

In Statistics and Probability, we will describe the chance of something happening using words like unlikely, impossible, likely, will and will not happen.

Wellbeing

This term we are focusing on identifying and describing our emotions. We will explore this by role playing, unpacking and discussing different emotions through images and making connections to our own experiences. During Circle Time, the students have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss their understanding in a safe and supportive environment. We will be following the Rights, Responsibilities and Respectful Relationships Program in our wellbeing lessons each week.

What Can You Do At Home?

Reading

Take home reading will commence Week 3. The primary focus of take home reading is developing fluency and expression whilst also building on the skills and strategies taught in class. It is really important to read aloud every night, make opportunities to discuss what has been read and support an overall love for reading with your child.

If your child prefers to read books from home please make sure they still fill out their reading log.

Reminders

- ★ School hats are required to play outside in Term 1 and students are encouraged to apply sunscreen each day
- ★ Could all students please bring a box of tissues for their classroom.
- ★ Enjoy your kids, it's a special time!