



GRADE 1 / 2 NEWSLETTER

Term 2, 2017

Grade 1/2 Team

Room 1 – Miss Boyd

*Room 2 – Miss McCurdy /
Ms Van Deurse*

Room 10A – Miss Pyers

Room 10B – Miss Davies

Dear Parents and Carers,

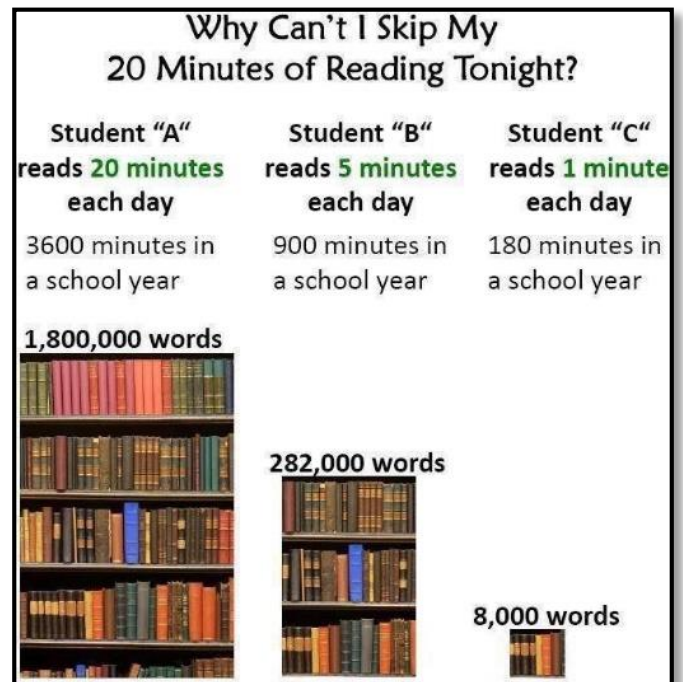
Welcome to Term 2! The students have settled back into their school routines and are demonstrating great enthusiasm towards their learning. We have a very busy and exciting term ahead!

Attendance

We remind all families how important it is to be at school. Please ensure you let the office or classroom teacher know if your child is going to be away. Our school aim each week is 95% attendance. If you are late to class please report to the office before going to your child's classroom.

Home Reading

Just a short reminder of the importance of your child reading to you each night at home and having their home reading journals signed. Please continue to support your child with their reading by listening to them each night. Term 1 saw many students achieve over 50 nights of reading and they are eagerly working towards their next milestone.



Parent Helpers

Thank you to those parent/carers who have kindly offered to assist with their child's learning as a classroom helper. The Department of Education is requesting all parent/carers that are willing to come into classrooms to please complete a volunteer Working With Children Check. This is a requirement that needs to be completed before heading into your child's classroom. Please provide a copy of your WWCC and the signed QHPS Code of Conduct to the office. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.



Reading and Writing

This term in reading we will be developing our skills in predicting, making connections to personal experiences, pausing to think about what we have read and making inferences and summarising important events or information in the text.

In writing this term we will be focusing on free weekend writing, recounts, procedures and explanations. We are continuing to enhance our writing by making sure we use the description bubble, time connectives and punctuation to make our writing powerful!

Inquiry

Our term two inquiry learning will focus on Science.

The first unit, '**All Mixed Up**' will involve students developing understandings about materials that don't mix well, and others that are difficult to separate. Through hands-on investigations, students will explore how changing the quantities of materials in a mixture can alter its properties and uses. They will complete a mini-project at home about mixtures. '**Stimulating Science**' is the unit of inquiry that we will be investigating for the remainder of the term. Students will explore the concept of changes in our physical world and develop understandings of how and why these changes occur, helping us in our daily lives.

Our guiding questions will include;

- What changes every day?
- How does a scientist work?
- Why are there different categories of science?

Maths

As part of our whole school Maths Initiative, we will continue to spend three weeks on a specific topic to consolidate student understandings.

- Subtraction
- Place Value
- Shapes and Objects
- Patterns

Digital Technologies

This term students will continue to explore digital systems and coding through the use of Bee Bots and programs including Scratch Junior.

Library

Students are able to borrow up to four books and can have them for up to two weeks. Students need to use either their reader bag or bring a library bag for this session. Please see attached individual classroom timetable for specific classroom times.

If your child has an overdue book they will not be able to borrow from the library.

Our School-wide Expectations

1. Do your best
2. Help Others Succeed
3. Respect your environment

Term Calendar

Please take note of some of these important dates happening at school this term:

Wednesday May 3rd	School Photos
Friday May 12th	Mother's Day Stall
Wednesday May 17th	Science Mini-Project presentations in classrooms
Friday May 26th	Education Week- Open Morning
Monday June 5th	Gymnastic Commences for 4 weeks. Times vary for each classroom. Please see your teacher if you would like your child's specific gym time.
Monday June 12th	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Friday June 30th	Last day of Term 2

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday (Assembly)
Teacher	Miss Van Deurse	Miss Van Deurse	Miss Van Deurse (odd weeks) Miss McCurdy (even weeks)	Miss McCurdy	Miss McCurdy
Specialist Subjects	PE		Library Art		Music (even weeks) Chinese (odd weeks)

If you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact your classroom teacher.

Regards,

Tess Davies, Helen Pyers, Alexia Boyd, Lauren McCurdy & Tonya Van Deurse.

Lauren McCurdy: mccurdy.lauren.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Tonya Van Deurse: vandeurse.tonya.a@edumail.vic.gov.au



Chinese

After a quick recap of numbers of 1 to 10, students will learn to count from 11 to 19 as well as counting by 10s. Students will also learn 8 animal words in Chinese through several learning activities such as actions, singing and role plays. By the end of the term, students are supposed to be able to tell two sentences in Chinese – 'I am + animal' and 'I have + numbers of animals at home'.



Music

In Term 2 students will be building on their song bank using 'so', 'mi' and 'la', using the Kodaly hand signs and Boomwhackers. They will begin to record these on the 5-line music stave. Rhythmic patterns using 'ta', 'ti-ti' and 'sa' (rest) will continue to be explored with percussion instruments. They will also continue exploring some classical music and responding to the music with their bodies.



Art

In art this term grade one and two students will explore ideas and observations and express them through the subject matter of their artworks. They will experiment with different materials, techniques and processes to make artwork in a range of forms. Students will continue to develop an understanding of the elements of art focussing on shape, texture and colour to create artworks based on picture books, winter and ANZAC themes. They will continue to develop their construction techniques through paper folding, cutting and joining. Students will use arts language to discuss their own and others artworks.



PE

During Term 2 students will be working on fundamental motor skills such as running, leaping, throwing and catching. Students will also be involved in minor games working on team work, encouraging others and following game rules. Students will also be practicing a range of Athletic events to prepare for the School Athletics early in Term 3.

