

Dear Parents/Guardians,

To keep everyone updated we have a quick snapshot of what we are doing in our classes during Term Three as well as other information that is important to Year Ones.

Important dates for Term Three:

August 9th – Performing Arts Showcase performance for students
August 16th – First Aid for Kids
August 19th – Book Week Character Dress Up
August 19th – 22nd Book Week
August 22nd – THRIVE NIGHT (more information on Compass)
August 23rd – Curriculum Day (no students required at school)
August 28th-29th – Father’s Day Stall
August 21st, 28th & September 4th, 11th, 18th – Footsteps
September 10th – Maths Open Morning (more information on Compass)
September 12th – Excursion to Chesterfield Farm
September 17th- 18th- Responsible Pet Ownership
September 20th – Footy Day
Last Day of Term

What you can be doing at home.

DAILY HOME READING IS VITALLY IMPORTANT FOR ALL YEAR ONE STUDENTS.

Three books are sent home each week with your child to allow them a choice in what they read each night.

Your child does not have to read all three books each night, but in order for reading success they should read at least one of these books each night, and the title and date recorded in the reading log. (Please refer to the note at the front of the reading log if you have any queries about this.)

Further ways you can help your child achieve reading success is to ask lots of ‘what’, ‘who’ and ‘why’ questions before and after reading to support their understanding (comprehension) of the text.

Each week all Year One students will have a list of ten new spelling words to practise. The teachers will introduce the words at school, and do some activities with them during the week, but helping your child to practise these words at home will develop their spelling knowledge growth.

Students will also have a weekly maths talk topic. These are designed to be a quick, easy and fun way for you to start a conversation with your child about our weekly classroom maths focus.

Mathletics and Lexia can also be used at home to support your child’s growth.

Literacy

This term, the Year One students will be working on developing their understanding of different text types including information reports, persuasive writing and procedural texts. The students will be learning the key components of textural structures and grammatical concepts. As students edit their writing, they will be checking for full stops and capital letters, experimenting with exclamation marks, and talking marks. To support the development of the students reading skills, we will continue to introduce new CAFÉ Reading strategies. These will include, using visual images to assist in comprehending texts, self-correcting when reading and exploring cause and effect. Through ‘turn and talk’ opportunities, students will continue to work on actively listening to their peers, understanding and accepting others’ opinions and participating in whole class and group discussions.

Jolly Phonics

We want to congratulate the Year One students and parents for taking Jolly Phonics on so enthusiastically this year. This term, the students will be continuing with our weekly phonics program with a focus on digraphs and word endings. Your child will continue to bring words home in their reading logs each week related to the focus, just as they did in Semester One. Please continue to practise reading and spelling the words throughout the week and discuss the phonics focus, as this will assist the students with their learning in the classroom.

Maths

This term, the students will learn about sharing and equal groups, and begin to explore fractions. They will revise the concepts of tens and hundreds taught earlier in the year. Students will engage in measurement activities, where they will have the opportunity to measure length, mass and capacity. They will continue to build on their understanding of time, by revising o’clock and half-past times on both analogue and digital clocks.

Please support and encourage your child at home by discussing the Maths Talk topic (this is in the weekly reading log sheet). Also, remember the 'Mathletics' computer program is a fabulous way to consolidate students' knowledge of the concepts taught in class.

Inquiry

This term our Inquiry Unit is a science unit called 'All About Farms'. It will develop children's understanding of the living things on a farm and their features, as well as places they live and their basic needs. Children will have the opportunity to explore how living things grow and change. Some of the main questions we will focus on are:

1. Why do we need farms?
2. How do farmers care for the living things on a farm?
3. How does food get from the farm to the table?

As part of our unit we will be visiting Chesterfield Farm, where the children will experience the jobs farmers do and explore the different products that the farm produces. Towards the end of the unit, the children will have the opportunity to showcase their knowledge and understanding through a range of hands on activities.

Digital Technologies

During Term Three we will be using our classroom iPads during our Literacy sessions to access apps such as EPIC! and Lexia. Computers and iPads will be used to complete tasks on Mathletics and to research our term topic 'All About Farms'. Students will have access to PowerPoint to create a presentation to describe a procedure eg. How to make bread. They will use simple step-by-step instructions (algorithms) to describe how to get from one point to another on a map, and will have the opportunity to program a Bee Bot to demonstrate this.

Wellbeing

During Term 3, classes will again be focusing on developing and promoting student wellbeing through our school wide 'THRIVE' program. Our focus for this term is on the values of 'Try Your Best' and 'Get Involved' and sessions will allow the students to further grow their confidence and resilience through a variety of activities and discussions.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year One Team