

Dear Parents/Guardians,

To keep everyone updated we have a quick snapshot of what the students are learning about in our classes during Term Two, as well as other important information that is relevant to Year One.

Important dates for Term Two:

April 22nd - Easter Monday (public holiday)

April 26th - ANZAC Day (public holiday)

May 6th - Curriculum Day (no students required)

May 7th & 8th - Mother's Day Stall (more information to come)

May 8th, 10th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 20th, 22nd - Swimming Program at Casey Race

June 10th - Queen's Birthday (public holiday)

June 12th & 13th - Hands on Science Incursion (more information to come)

June 17th - Open Afternoon (more information to come)

June 28th - Last Day of School (2.30pm finish)

PNF Crazy Hair Day (gold coin donation)

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 narrative texts. The students will be thinking about the characters, settings and problems and having-a-go at writing simple stories. The teachers will also be introducing the students to writing procedural and information texts.

Students will be exposed to simple procedural steps and produce their own information reports on topics of interest. As students edit their writing, they will be checking for full stops and capital letters and experimenting with exclamation marks and talking marks.

To support accuracy when reading texts, the students will continue to introduce CAFÉ strategies, such as Skippy the Frog and Tryin' Lion. This term, the students will also be focussing on developing comprehension skills as they refine their ability to retell a story and infer, using clues from the text.

The students will be expanding their spoken and written vocabulary and you may hear your child talking about WOW words. Our spelling program will focus on listening for sounds that blend together at the start of words.

Jolly Phonics

This term, the students will be continuing with our weekly phonics program with a focus on digraphs and word endings. Your child will be bringing home words in their reading logs each week related to the focus, just as they did in Term One. Please continue to practise reading and spelling the words throughout the week and discuss the phonics focus.

Maths

This term, the Year One students will have the opportunity to build on their understanding of addition and subtraction. The students will be developing strategies to increase their accuracy and efficiency when manipulating numbers. The students will build on their understanding of skip counting and number sequences to 100.

Students will also be learning about 2D and 3D shapes. They will begin to recognise them in their environment and develop awareness of their features by being engaged in creative and 'hands on' activities. They will learn how to represent data on simple picture graphs using objects and drawings. In Maths sessions, students will develop their understanding of maps where they will learn to follow directions around familiar locations.

Keep your eye out for the weekly maths talk topics in your child's reading log. They relate directly to the concepts that we are learning about in class. A warm, inviting numeracy rich learning environment at home is the first step to fostering a love of mathematics in children. A discussion with your child can be as simple as - If we add two more children to your birthday party list, how many children will there be? How many lolly bags should we make up?

Inquiry

This term, the Year One students will be learning about 'Light and Sound'. The students will begin their investigations by learning about the '5 senses' and then build on their knowledge of where light comes from and how we make different sounds. As part the 'sound' investigations the students will be making some musical instruments towards the end of term. It would be great if you could start collecting tissue boxes, paper towel rolls etc. that could be used to help us make these. Please hold off on sending them in until your teacher has asked for them. Please encourage your child to share and discuss their learning about 'Light and Sound' as this greatly enhances their experience.

Digital Technologies

During Term Two, the students will be using our classroom iPads during our English sessions to access apps such as EPIC! and Lexia. Computers and iPads will be used to complete tasks on Mathletics and research our term topic 'Light and Sound'. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with very simple step-by-step procedures to explore programmable devices using Bee Bots and the Bee Bot app on the iPads to move their Bee Bot from one place to another. They will collect, explore and sort data about favourite ice-cream flavours and present the data as a picture graph using WORD or PowerPoint.

Wellbeing

This term, we are continuing our Positive Education program "THRIVE", which focuses on student wellbeing. This term our theme is 'Relate Well'. Students will be involved in lessons to explore their feelings and relationships.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year One Team