

Dear Year One Families,

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



**Important dates for Term One:**

Thursday 4th March- Coal Creek Excursion 1C, 1H & 1M  
Monday 8th March - Labour Day Public Holiday  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March- Coal Creek excursion 1A, 1B & 1J  
Wednesday 24th March - 'Olden Day' Dress Up  
Thursday 4th April - Easter Bonnet Parade

**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 their THRIVE diaries. (Please refer to the note at the front of the spelling and maths book 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.** We 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 support their spelling knowledge growth.

As of next term, students will also have a weekly maths discussion 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.

**Literacy**

This term the Year One students will be working on developing their understanding of recounts, letter writing, descriptions and poetry. As we edit our writing we will be checking for full stops and capital letters and experimenting with new vocabulary.

To support our accuracy when reading texts, we will continue to introduce a variety of reading strategies. This term we will also be focussing on developing comprehension skills as we refine our ability to retell a story and ask questions throughout the reading process.

We will be expanding our spoken and written vocabulary and you may hear your child talking about WOW words.

This year, we will continue to implement our school-wide spelling and grammar approach. Jolly Phonics is a comprehensive programme, based on the proven, fun and multi-sensory synthetic phonics method that gets children reading and writing from an early age. Our weekly spelling words reflect the weekly classroom focus. Revising these at home will greatly support your child in the classroom.

## Maths

During Maths in Term One, the concepts that we will be covering include number sense to 100, time, money and chance. Students will be working on reading, writing and saying numbers to 100, what numbers are odd and even as well as developing a greater understanding of place value. They will be also engaged in 'hands on' activities as they discover aspects of time and Australian money.

At home there are many ways in which mathematics can be explored including cooking, counting money and playing board games. This will help foster an understanding of how mathematics can be applied in real-life situations.

## Inquiry

This term the children will be learning about 'Family Life'. We will begin our investigations by learning what makes a family and how they are all different and special to us. We will explore who is in our families and create a family tree. Next, we will look at how families, homes and schools have changed over time through interviewing grandparents and engaging learning experiences, such as our visit to Coal Creek. We will celebrate our learning on our Dress Up Day (which you will receive further information, closer to the date).

## Mathletics and Reading Eggs

Just a reminder, students have access to Mathletics and we will be introducing a new program this year called Reading Eggs. If they wish to use these programs at home their login details will soon appear in their reading logs.

## Wellbeing

This year we are continuing our Positive Education program "THRIVE", which focuses on student wellbeing. This term our theme is 'Enjoy Positive Emotions'. Students will be involved with weekly lessons to explore our feelings and relationships. Don't forget that there are also some little THRIVE activities included in your reading diary!



Thank you for your continued support,

The Year One Team