Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to school for a short Term 1! We hope that you had a happy and relaxing holiday.

Introducing the Grade 1/2 Team:
Kimberley Phair 1P (Room 14), Eliza Kerin 1K (Room 15), Michelle Rangott 1R (Room 16), Agata Puglia 1A (Room 20)
Katia Scicluna 2S (Room 19 - the old library), Leonie Isaacs 2I (Room 19), Eldon Jenkin 2J (Room 17)
Sarah Nightingale is the Grade 1/2 Leader

Following is a brief overview of what students will be learning this term.

LITERACY

Reading
During the reading hour, the focus is on building confidence through the development of effective reading strategies for a variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction. During the reading session, teachers will support student learning by modelling reading strategies and providing opportunities for students to construct their own responses to texts read. Individual reading conferences will assist students to set their own reading goals. Students will also participate in daily independent reading.

Writing
In writing this term, we will provide opportunities for students to further develop their skills in recount writing. Our focus will be to encourage students to plan their writing, and include detail for interest. To assist students to write descriptively, we will focus on specific language features of the genre, such as the use of ‘time words’, paragraphs and punctuation. Later in the term, students will also have the opportunity to further develop skills in procedural writing. We will continue to build on and develop students’ spelling skills by strengthening their sound/letter relationship knowledge, word/sound patterns and using spelling rules and strategies. Students will continue to learn their high frequency words through a range of different activities and as part of their homework (see below).

Handwriting
Students will complete regular handwriting and fine motor activities to reinforce correct pencil grip and letter formation.

Students will also continue to access www.readingeggs.com.au on a weekly basis at school and are encouraged to use this site at home. Reading Eggs passwords will be pasted in your child’s home reading log in the coming weeks.

NUMERACY

The focus in maths this term will be on developing students’ understanding of number concepts up to and over 100 for Grade 1 and 1000 for Grade 2. Specific areas covered will include:

Number and Algebra
- Counting forwards and backwards to 100 (and beyond)
- Skip Counting by 2s, 5s and 10s
- Place Value (64 is 6 tens and 4 ones)
Statistics and Probability

- Data collection and graphing

To assist with the development of essential numeracy skills, please encourage your child to practise counting forwards and backwards to 100 (and beyond) and skip counting out loud on a regular basis.

DEEP LEARNING (INQUIRY)

Focus: Learning To Learn Program
Essential Question: What factors influence what and how we learn?
Students will engage in a range of activities for the purpose of getting to know each other and the factors influencing their learning both in and out of school. The main focus of the program is our school values.
FPS School Values: Be Respectful, Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Ready To Learn

Focus: Let’s Code
Essential Question: How can we use Scratch Jr/Scratch to teach others about school values?
Students will be focusing on how they can use code/Scratch Jr to make a simple animation about our school values. Students will begin to explore different types of programming language and its many uses.

eLearning (ICT)

Students will develop their computer skills across all curriculum areas. As well as desktop computers, students will have access to a bank of iPads where we will be exploring different applications to enhance our learning.
Reading Eggs/Reading Eggspress and Mathletics will be accessed on a regular basis in the classroom. Please encourage and assist your child at home to practise logging onto these programs.

HOMEWORK

Home reading will begin at the start of week 3. Students will bring home daily reading books. Students will choose books from levelled home readers (the selection will include easy, instructional and hard texts). Students are encouraged to read for 15 minutes each day/night and record it in their take home reading logs (yellow book).
Maths: Students will continue to access www.mathletics.com.au on a weekly basis. Please allow time for your child to access this website from home so that they can continue to develop their mathematical skills across a range of areas. Students will be expected to complete Mathletics tasks weekly as part of the homework. If your child does not have internet access at home, please see your child’s teacher so we can cater for them in school hours. Mathletics passwords will be pasted in your child’s home reading log in the coming weeks.
Spelling: Spelling words selected for students to study at home are relevant to their individual writing needs. Words will include frequently used words, theme/topic words, blends and student choice words. A suggested strategy to help students learn unknown words by thinking about ways to remember a word is LOOK SAY NAME COVER WRITE CHECK (LSNCWC)

Grade 1 Homework
- Daily reading of a range of materials from school, home and local Library.
- M100W reading and spelling words
- Mathletics tasks set by the teacher

Grade 2 Homework
- Daily reading of a range of materials from school, home and local Library.
- Weekly spelling words (M300W or other)
- Mathletics tasks set by the teacher

Homework Timeline
Monday - homework books come home with spelling words.
Friday - return homework books.
Sample Homework Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reading (10-15 minutes)</th>
<th>Spelling (5-10 minutes)</th>
<th>Mathletics (minimum 10 minutes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Home reading to an adult</td>
<td>Complete first attempt of LSCWC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Home reading to an adult</td>
<td>Complete second attempt of LSCWC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Home reading to an adult</td>
<td>Log on and aim to complete tasks set by teacher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Home reading to an adult</td>
<td>Complete final attempt of LSCWC</td>
<td>Log on and aim to complete tasks set by teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Home reading to an adult</td>
<td>*spelling test at school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INDIVIDUAL LEARNING GOALS**

Students will develop their own personal learning goals across the curriculum for **Reading**, **Writing and Maths**. To reflect individual student accomplishments, each learning goal will be reviewed regularly. Individual learning goals will be displayed in your child's classroom.

**KNOWLEDGE BOOK**

The Knowledge Book will contain samples of student learning from all curriculum areas. Students will paste a sample piece in their book, accompanied by the Learning Intention (provided by the teacher). The Knowledge Book will be sent home with student work samples throughout the term.

**REMINDERS**

- As we have children in our school with life threatening allergies to nuts, please ensure your child does not bring any nuts or nut products (such as Peanut Butter or Nutella) in their daily lunch.
- SunSmart - students need to wear a broadbrim hat during all outside sessions (recess, lunch, P.E. and games). NO HAT, NO PLAY (students without a hat will need to sit on the blue seats outside Prep area).
- Fruit break: Please provide your child with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable in a small container to eat during the day.
- Children are not permitted inside the classrooms before school to hang their bags up.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **Meet the Teacher** – Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th February (4:00pm-7:00pm)
- **Homework commences** – Monday 15th February
- **Classroom helpers training session** – Tuesday 16th February
- **Knowledge Book sent home each Friday to be returned the following Monday** – commence week 3
- **Parent Helper Program commences** – Monday 22nd February (week 4)
- **Term One Individual Student Reports sent home with students** Thursday 24th March
- **Thursday 24th March** - End of Term 1 (1:30pm dismissal)
- **Term 2 commences Monday 11th April for teachers** (NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL)
- **Tuesday 12th April students return to school**

Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher if you have any queries or concerns throughout the term.

**Grade 1/2 Team**

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