We have had a great start to Term 1, learning our routines and focusing on wellbeing. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you of the learning planned for this term. As the teaching and learning cycle develops some planning may change depending on the needs of the students. Please read the term review at the end of the term to see what activities and learning were completed. Each term an overview and review will be posted on the school website for you to access.

www.mawsonlakes.sa.edu.au/newsletters.html

**English**

This term our whole school text type focus is Descriptive and Narrative, we will also begin to focus on Recount writing near the end of the term.

Students will read and identify the features of a narrative – orientation, complication, resolution and ending. Students will also explore the language features of a narrative including verbs, noun groups, past tense, connectives and direct speech. Descriptive writing will be integrated into their narrative writing, describing characters and settings.

Students will engage in whole class and small group reading. We will focus on word attack strategies and comprehension skills including, inferencing, visualising and thinking skills of a good reader. The reading program will also link to the learning of the focus text types.

Classroom teachers will gather information on individual reading levels and Oxford words. Individual reading programs and spelling lists will go home once this is complete.

**Mathematics**

All year we will have a big focus on Number and Algebra. This term students will focus on the sub strand Number and Place Value. Learning will include students investigating odd and even numbers, recognising, ordering, modelling and representing numbers. Students will apply place value to partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to assist calculations and solve problems. They will also, recall addition facts for single- digit numbers and related subtraction facts to develop increasingly efficient mental strategies for computation.

**Science**

Students will explore how Earth’s rotation on its axis causes regular changes including day and night.

**Humanities and Social Sciences**

During the first few weeks students will explore the Civics and Citizenship topic about the importance of making decisions democratically. They will also discuss who makes rules, why rules are important and the consequences of rules not being followed. As learning communities develop students will also inquire about why people participate within communities and how students can effectively participate and contribute.

**Geography**

During Geography, students learning will link to Science. Students will explore the main climate types of the world and the similarities and differences between these. Students will also explore the representation of Australia as states and territories and as Countries/Places of Aboriginal and Torrens Strait Islander Peoples; and major places in Australia both natural and human (linking to History).

During History, students will inquire about ‘Who lived in Australia first and how do we know?’ This will link to discovering the history of some commemorations within Australia e.g. Australia Day. Students will also begin to explore the importance of Countries/Places to Aboriginal and Torrens Strait Islander Peoples.

**Japanese, The Arts, Health and P.E**

This year specialist subjects are The Arts, Japanese and Health and P.E. Please see specialist subjects newsletters for more information. Each week students will participate in two P.E lessons, two Japanese lessons and one Art lesson.

As always, if you have any concerns regarding the learning for the term, or any routines or rules that may confuse you please do not hesitate to speak to your child’s teacher.

Regards,

Pamela Castaneda and Liana Tangredi

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**Important Dates**

14th Feb Parent Acquaintance Night 5:45pm-6:30pm
17th Feb Gathering 9am
21st Feb Governing Council
6th/7th March DECD external Review
10th Mar Gathering 9am
13th Mar Public Holiday
15th Mar School Photos
28th Mar Governing Council 7pm
29th Mar Maths Parent workshop 6:30
31st Mar Gathering 9am
3rd April - 7th April Parent teacher interviews
13th April End of term - Early dismissal 2pm Gold coin donation, casual day
14th April Good Friday

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**School Times**

8.40 School starts. It is important that students are at school on time, if a student is late please sign in through the front office.

10.55 – 11.15 Recess

12.40 Children are supervised eating their lunch

12.50 – 1.30 Lunch play

3.00 School finishes

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**Email Addresses**

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