

# Room W11's Newsletter

## Welcome

Welcome to the 2018 school year. The students have settled into the class exceptionally well and learning is well underway. I am looking forward to a fantastic year with the class. I will be encouraging students to reach their full potential by having high expectations for them and having very clear behaviour guidelines for them to follow, which we made as a class. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you about the curriculum your child will be learning this term.

This term we will be covering the following:

## Mathematics

Throughout the term students will be taught:

Number & Place Value

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication & division
- Place Value
- Properties of odd & even numbers
- Efficient mental & written strategies

Money & Financial Mathematics

- Purchases and calculating change to the nearest 5 cents

Towards the end of the term we will be looking at converting between units of time and using am & pm times.

## Important Dates

- 13<sup>th</sup> February – Tuesday – Parent Acquaintance Night
- 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday – Gathering at 9am
- 9<sup>th</sup> March – Friday – Gathering at 9am
- 14<sup>th</sup> March – Wednesday – School Photos
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Gathering at 9am
- 30<sup>th</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Easter Long Weekend
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 6<sup>th</sup> April – Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
- 13<sup>th</sup> April – End of Term 1 – 2pm dismissal

# Term 1

## Science

This term in science we are looking at Biological Sciences which involves understanding that living things have life cycles. As a class we will be making and recording observations of living things through their life cycles as we will conduct experiments to water and help plants grow from seeds. All students will then be able to describe the stages of different plant life cycles and confidently compare the life cycles of plants and animals. Through our experiments students will recognize that environmental factors can effect life cycles.

The class will also be looking at how living things depend on each other and the environments to survive. Students will complete an enquiry task which allows them to investigate the roles of living things in different habitats and understand how plants provide shelter for animals as well as recognising that interactions between living things may be competitive or mutually beneficial. Students will observe and describe predator-prey relationships while using predictions to foresee whether feeding relationships are to be removed or whether they will die out.

## HASS – Humanities & Social Sciences

During HASS we will be looking at the History of Australia and lessons will be based on the following Inquiry Questions

- Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
- What was life like for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of Europeans?
- Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?

The following enquiry skills will be taught during lessons: questioning, researching, analyzing, evaluating & reflecting and communicating.

## Design and Technologies

This term students will be recognising the role of people in design and technology occupations. They will explore factors, including sustainability that impact on the design of products, services and environments to meet community needs. Students will investigate how forces and the properties of materials affect the behaviour of a product or system.

Students will also have many learning opportunities with multiple subjects during STEM lessons.



## English

This term our whole school text type focus is Description and Narrative writing. Students will identify and discuss the different features of a narrative – orientation, complication, resolution and ending. Students will distinguish the language features of a narrative and will be able to integrate descriptive writing within their narratives to be able to better identify the description of characters and setting.

All students will engage with whole class, small group and individual reading. There will be a main focus this term on comprehension to make sure all students are understanding what they are reading. As part of homework each night students will have an individual book to read where they will have to write a book review about the book after they are finished. As a class we will store these reviews in a folder so the students will be able to recommend books to others.

Throughout this term individual reading levels and spelling level information will be gathered and sent home as we will start a focus on a program called Words Their Way which will help students to identify any common misconceptions in words and spelling.

## Other Subjects

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

If you have any concerns regarding the learning for this term or anything within the class that may confuse you please don't hesitate to contact me by my email:

[Amy.Bell58@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Amy.Bell58@schools.sa.edu.au)

Kind Regards,  
Amy Bell

