

GRADE ONE NEWSLETTER – TERM 1, 2017

WELCOME

We would like to welcome our families back for the 2017 school year and to extend a warm welcome to all our new families.

1A and 1P have had a pleasing start to the year with almost everyone arriving well organised with all classroom supplies. Thank you to all parents for clearly labelling everything. Please make sure you have sent to school: all booklist items including pencil cases, tissues and Library bags.



This Newsletter is to keep you informed about what's happening at school. Of course our doors are always open and we are happy to talk to you about school matters at 8:45am each day or after school. You can also make appointments to see class teachers by phone.

Encourage that all children keep a fresh bottle of water on their tables and bring fresh fruit to school to eat during scheduled daily fruit break at 9:00am

TERM 1 TOPIC: COMMUNITY - PLACES AND SPACES AND THE R.I.C.H. SCHOOL VALUES

Children will be learning about the RICH school values of Respect, Integrity, Celebration and Honesty this term as well as learning about our Community. This year we are making connections to the past as well as studying about the present day. Topics will range from families and family life to clothing and schooling. If you have any items at home that are considered 'old fashioned' e.g. clothing, school items etc. we would love for you to bring them in to enhance our learning in the classroom. Likewise if there are any grandparents or great grandparents who have anything to share or tell from their childhoods.

LITERACY AND MATHS GROUPS

All Grade One's will be grouped, according to ability and need, for Literacy and Maths this year. This means your child may not be with their class teacher for all sessions they may be in a Literacy or Maths group with either Miss Perkins or Miss Arnold.

We will be using the school App 'Tiqbiz' at times this year so if you haven't yet downloaded this check the school website for more information or at the school office.



PARENT HELPERS

We love all the help we can get and children certainly love having mum, dad or a grandparent as a classroom helper. You can help with Daily Reading, Cooking, Class based learning or on excursions. Please talk to your class teacher about this.

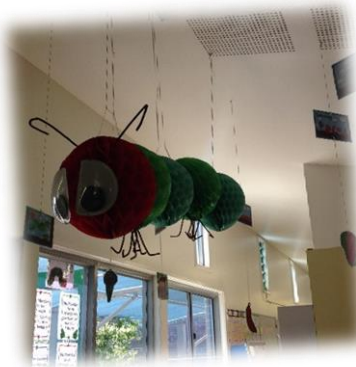
A timetable for READING helpers can be found on the entry door please fill in if you are able to assist this term.

AT HOME READING PROGRAM

Home Reading books will be sent home daily. **Home readers are meant to be easy** for the children to read as classroom reading involves more challenging text as directed by the teacher. The purpose of home reading is:

1. To develop reading as a habit and to develop a positive attitude towards reading.
2. To practise reading skills such as: voice modulation and volume, expression, observing punctuation, retelling and inferring from text.
3. It is important to remember that we read to gain meaning. Often children can decode words at a higher level than their comprehension ability so it is necessary to be consolidating reading at comprehension level.

The Grade One children will also receive a 'Learning at home' book which contains wordlists for them to practise reading and spelling with daily used words. Children will be given home tasks throughout the year and this book can be used for this purpose.



REMINDERS

- * Please send READERS to school daily, even if they haven't been read.
- * HATS are kept at school so they are always available.
- * Please be punctual and send a note or make a phone call if your child is away.



As of Monday 6th February students will be able to enter the classroom from 8:50am to organise themselves for learning. This means putting readers in tubs, getting fruit and notices organised and putting ILB's (individual learning boxes) on tables this helps with a quicker start to learning at 9:00am. We remind students and parents that if a teacher is not in the classroom at this time they are unable to enter.

DAYS TO REMEMBER

Tuesdays – P.E Wednesday – ART and MUSIC

Tuesday 28th February- PANCAKE DAY – Children are asked to bring a small amount of topping to put on their pancake. Containers to be clearly named.

Monday 13th March- Labour Day holiday

Any questions or concerns come and see us.

Alicia Perkins and Skie Arnold

Year 1 Teachers