



Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2017 school year. This year I will be teaching your child aspects of The Arts using the Australian Curriculum.

**Beliefs:** I believe in a success-oriented classroom where:

- every child is valued regardless of gender, race, sexuality or disability
- creativity and risk-taking are encouraged
- people understand and respect the need for physical and emotional safety and well-being for themselves and others
- collaboration and teamwork are emphasised, whilst recognising that the group is only as strong as its weakest link, thus the need for each individual to take responsibility for achieving goals and outcomes
- independent learning skills such as planning, organisation, time management and realistic goal setting are fostered
- a growth mindset is fostered. In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. Virtually all great people have had these qualities.

**New Timetable:**

This year we have 30 classes spanning from Reception through to Year 7 and I have the privilege of teaching all classes. This year's timetable consists of 45 minute lessons and I will be working with each class for one lesson per week.

**Classroom:**

My Arts room is located on the West side on the campus in room W13, which is the closest classroom to the drop off zone.

**Focus for 2017:**

To comply with the Australian Curriculum our students will be learning all 5 subjects of The Arts. These subjects will be taught in collaboration with the classroom teachers. Classroom teachers will be taking the responsibility of teaching Visual Arts and will be reporting on your child's progress in the mid-year report. I will be teaching the other 4 subjects as listed below:

Term 1 = Drama

Term 2 = Media Arts

Term 3 = Music

Term 4 = Dance

I will be reporting on your child's progress in the end of year report.

**Behaviour:**

During the first lesson that I have with each class, we will be discussing behavioural and work expectations. These expectations will be what I will be reporting on in the form of Achievement and Effort. If your child does not reach these expectations, then I will be sending a note home via their diary/communication book. Please discuss these issues with your child. If you wish to discuss them further with me or you want to touch base to discuss your child's progress, please contact me so that we can make either a before school or after school appointment. My email address is [kathryn.barrowman725@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:kathryn.barrowman725@schools.sa.edu.au)

In conclusion, I am excited about working with you and your child in 2017 to explore The Arts and develop new artists.

Regards,

*Kathryn Barrowman*

The Arts Specialist Teacher

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