

Year 2

Term 1 Overview 2017



Welcome Back!

It is great to see so many students back from holidays refreshed and eager to continue their learning journey for 2017 as Powerful Learners.

We have had a busy and positive start to the 2017 school year, learning routines and expectations focusing on our School Values and developing a Growth Mindset. Our focus for the term is around **Powerful Learning** and particularly over the first month, we will be undertaking activities in goal setting, organisation, getting along and building team ethos, strategies for successful learning and personal accountability.

English

This term the text types we will be focusing on will be Description writing and Narrative. We will read and write a range of these texts to learn the structure and language used, moving on to writing our own examples.

Take home reading books and spelling lists will be distributed by Week 3 and they will form the core of students' homework for the year. All students will be participating in the Premiers Reading Challenge. Further information will be sent out during the term.

Mathematics

This year we plan to develop students' skills in Mathematic Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning. These proficiencies are developed through three content strands Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

In class we are using the STAR problem-solving model (Sort, Think, Action, Reflect). We will be looking at various counting and mental strategies to help solve real life situations. Some strategies will include building to 10, doubles, halving, number splitting, 10 facts and adding 10, to build students' number sense. There will be a specific emphasis on understanding number and developing problem solving skills. Students will investigate and describe number patterns and patterns with objects, moving on to identifying missing elements.

This year we are very fortunate to have Ann Baker again (Natural Maths) working with classes and teachers to continue to develop the potential of all students in the area of Numeracy. She will be working with teachers to develop classroom programs that develop these strategies.

School Times

- 8.40am School starts
- 10.55am Recess
- 12.40pm Supervised eating lunch
- 12.50pm Lunch play
- 3.00pm School ends

Diary Dates

- 7th Feb AGM Governing Council 7pm
- 14th Feb Acquaintance Night 5.45 – 6.30pm
- 13th Mar PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Adelaide Cup)
- 15th Mar School Photos
- 21st Mar Harmony Day
- 29th Mar Maths Parent Workshop 6.30-7.30pm

3rd – 7th Apr (Week 10)

Parent Teacher Interviews

13th Apr Last day of Term 1. Casual Day (gold coin donation) 2pm Dismissal

14th Apr PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Good Friday)

Whole school gatherings will be held on Fridays of Weeks 3,6 and 9 this term, 9.00am in the Denison Centre.

Remember

**NO Hat
NO Play**

Geography

We will be studying 'Local and More Distant Places'. The curriculum explores the geography of their lives and their own places. Students think about aspects of place, space and environment. Learning about their own place and building a connection with it, also contributes to their sense of identity and belonging, and an understanding that places should be cared for.

Students will begin to look at maps and compare distances between Australia and its close neighbours as well as look at the world map and globe and investigate regions of the world and how the poles and equator influence them.

These investigations will also tie in with our discussions about Harmony Day in March and the importance of tolerance and acceptance of people coming from all over the world to make up what is our modern multicultural society here in Australia.

Design and Technology

To be integrated within other learning areas.

Digital Technologies

This year we will have a focus on coding and robotics. This will include using Beebots and coding using the computer. Students organise and present data, text and images in creative ways to create meaning. They will learn about keeping safe while using the internet and explore various programs on the computers. Digital Technologies will also be integrated across the curriculum.

History

To be covered in Semester 2.

Science

Biological Sciences: 'Watch it Grow'.

Learning how Living things grow, change, and have offspring similar to themselves.

Health

The PE/Health Teachers, Michael and Des will cover health, however class teachers will be teaching the Child Protection Curriculum component. This term lessons will include:

- What it means to be safe
- We all have the right to feel safe
- How students can help themselves to remain safe

Classroom teachers will send more information home

PE/Health, Japanese and The Arts

Specialist providers, Michael, Des, Leesa and Katherine are covering these subjects. You can find out more about their programs in the specialist newsletters on the school website. You will have the opportunity to meet them and talk about their programs on Acquaintance Night.

Birthdays and Celebrations

This year we have numerous children in our building with food allergies. This creates safety issues with sharing food. If your child has a birthday and would like to share food with others please ensure that they have no trace of nuts.



Medical Updates

If your child requires medication at school we ask that you check the use by date for this year. Some puffers have been identified as needing updating and teachers will be asking that you refill these prescriptions as soon as possible. Please also ensure that the school has a copy of current medical/asthma plans, which need to be included with the medication.

All **school newsletters** can be found on the school website at

<http://www.mawsonlakes.sa.edu.au/newsletters.html>

School newsletters are uploaded in weeks 1, 3, 6 and 9 of each term. Please read these as there is often important information included about events such as Special Visitors Day, Interviews etc.

This term an introductory letter from your child's class teacher was sent home as a hard copy. Future class newsletters are available in weeks 2 and 9, covering an overview of the term and highlights of learning achievements.

We are delighted with the way the children have settled in and are encouraged by the number of students who are coming in and organising themselves independently in the mornings. Great job everyone!

We value your children's prior knowledge and endeavour to explore what students know to further build on their understanding.

Until next time,

Casey, Angie, Francesca, Desi, Bree and Monica
(The Year 2 teaching team)