

Greetings from Pod 2A

Do The Right Thing

Show We Care

Aim Higher



Welcome Back!

Dear Parents & Carers,

2019 looks to be a fantastic year of teaching and learning and I am really looking forward to meeting and working with all of you to help your child **aim high** and **extend themselves** in their learning. Having two year 5/6 classes will also mean a lot of collaboration and shared learning experiences with Pod 2B.

I have **high expectations** for all students and included in these is the expectation that all students will follow **Pod2a's cultural norms** and **engage positively** with the learning opportunities provided. For more information about the learning that will be taking place this term (and year) please join me for **Acquaintance night** which will be taking place at 6pm in Pod 2a on Tuesday the 5th of February.

This year when possible, communication will be done through the **Seesaw** app. Please let me know if you have not received your **Seesaw login code**, or if you have any questions or concerns about the use of Seesaw. Alternatively, please phone (08) 8264 5166 for issues such as **absences and appointments**. Mobile phones are to be left at the office upon entering school. Thank you for your support in what will be a fantastic year!

Jae Owers



Term 1, 2019



Important Dates

Tuesday 5/2—Acquaintance night

Friday 22/2—Assembly Pod 2A

Monday 11/3—Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

Mondays 18/3—8/4—Squash

Friday 29/3—Sport Day

POD2A's CULTURAL NORMS

This year the behavioral and learning expectations of students in Pod2A have been co-designed with the students. Class expectations have been summarized under three main ideas. In Pod2A we will ensure that we are trying our best to:

Do The Right Thing: RESPECTING others, following the teachers instructions, following the school rules.

Show We Care: being INCLUSIVE, helping others, caring for school property, the environment and the community.

Aim Higher: Actively extend ourselves, identify explicit targets and goals, know how we can achieve at a higher level and what we need to do to get there.

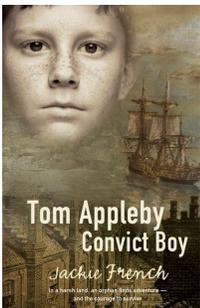


LITERACY

Literacy will be undertaken each morning. During this time, interruptions will be limited and students will be expected to be focused and ready for learning. I have analysed individual student data and used this data to identify commonalities within student goals and needs. Students will be working in small groups alongside other students who have similar goals and needs which will allow me to directly address challenging areas for each student and also extend them in the next step of their learning. Small, intensive Guided Reading, Word Study and Guided Writing sessions will occur daily and this will result in students getting targeted teaching support in a small group setting. This term our reading focus is on being a successful reader and we will be learning the strategies and skills needed, to decode unfamiliar and complex words. We will also learn how to use contextual clues to make inferences. For the first half of the term our writing focus will be on creating detailed, descriptive and exciting narratives. For the remainder of the term we will deconstruct, analyse and then create persuasive texts contain strong structural and language features.

H.A.S.S

This term we will learn about the social, economic and political development of Australia. We will be working closely with the historical fiction text 'Tom Appleby Convict Boy', written by Jackie French.



Pod 2A will be Investigating characteristics and properties of a range of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment and evaluate the impact of their use such as designing and construction of a sustainable household item eg a broom made of natural resources and reflecting on the importance of aesthetics, function and sustainability in product design, such as a sustainable method of moving a scooter for a student with an injured limb.

Science

Term 1 our topic for investigation will be;

Desert Survivors

Our unit of work will include hands on, shared experiences that will be combined with research



Student data and student needs will drive our term 1 numeracy program. Students will work regularly with the teacher in small, similar levelled groups in order to progress faster, and accurately towards their learning goals. We will begin numeracy with a whole class focus on Place Value and multiplicative thinking and over the first half of the term we will target misconceptions and strengthen the student's number skills. An emphasis will be on building mental strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts. Initial lessons consolidating number sense will lead into higher order problem solving, partitioning and proportional reasoning for those whose academic achievement show they are ready for more challenging learning. During numeracy lessons I will move from physical examples, to verbal explanation which will lead into symbolic representation. I will model problems based on real life situations and use story telling and worded problems to emphasise the connections between other areas of learning and numerical knowledge. The majority of the tasks we undertake are open ended with multiple start-