

★ ≡ [WELCOME BACK POD 2A FOR TERM 3] ≡ ★

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Families,

Welcome back to Term 3, this year seems to be flying by! So far, we have had an awesome start to this year and hopefully this will continue in this jam-packed term. This term will be full with events such as: Book Week and PAT. A milestone that I would like to share is the awesome work we have been doing in our Reading comprehension. I am feeling that each member should now know literal and inferential comprehension and begin to be more confident in answering these questions. Every member of Pod 2A when asked was able to answer this.

This term we will be hitting the ground running and be focussing on bumping our work up to the next level. Our aim in the classroom is to continue to build a safe and nurturing environment in which everyone feels welcome, valued and accepted. As a school and class, we want to help students to build skills such as resilience, working as a team and being kind that they can use throughout their lives and in their futures.

Last term we completed a kindness challenge in which most of us had a really positive response to and did well to complete this challenge. As a class we are learning that at times we need to collaborate and talk to people we may not usually talk with. The aim is to help us become more accepting of the people around us but also see if we can expand or begin to build a friendship circle.

As we have talked about, each member of the class has attended school for 800 days, therefore we should be acting as role models for the younger students and we all know how to act safe and follow expectations.

In the learning environment I want to continue to create learners that are independent and ask questions of their peers and the adults in the room. It is important for us to continue to develop these skills as this will make us successful in further years.

I am excited for another term with such an awesome class that has so much potential and different skills set to offer

Thankyou, Miss M.

CONTACT

If you need to contact me in regards to your child. I will be continuing to respond to messages on Seesaw between 8:30 - 4:30. I will try and respond as quickly as possible to you. If something is going to affect your child's absences such as leaving early or full day absences, please send me a message or ring the school so we can record this.

WORK HARD, BE KIND, GO THE EXTRA MILE.

ATTENDANCE

In order for your child to be as successful as possible, attendance is crucial. As a School we have an aim of **95% attendance**. Attendance is affected by **late arrivals and missing days** of school. School starts every day at 8:55am with learning beginning at this time also. As a school we have agreed to begin with a literacy block that is tailored to meet each year level. By missing the start, the students miss out on hearing the explicit instruction and this impacts their time to complete their learning to their highest potential. Important notes and changes for the day are also announced then with some students being confused throughout the day due to missing these important changes.

COVID 19

Being in winter as well as Covid-19 still being a risk, if your child is feeling unwell, please keep them home and do not send them to school. Well-being is crucial to development and learning therefore it is understandable your child may need a day to rest. While at school they will also have access to hand sanitiser and disposable face masks and a place within the wet area to wash their hands.

As advised by the Department of Health, we are still being encouraged to social distance when possible. This will also mean that we are asking parents to remain outside the school buildings and wear face masks. All adults will also need to sign-in manually or use the QR code to assist in contact tracing if they are coming through the front office.

OUR LEARNING

As a school we aim to provide clear learning goals and direction for students on a short term and long-term basis. This will be met by providing clear learning intentions and success criteria so we know when we have achieved the learning intention. Often, we use the acronym

WALT – ‘We are learning to...’. Students will be successful when they can meet their success criteria and can answer **WILF** – What I’m looking for.

Writing: We will be going back to ‘bump up’ our narratives specifically looking at effective paragraphing, characterisation and developing skills to make our stories even more entertaining.

Reading: For Reading we will be looking at questions and finding key words to help us identify the question type and how to answer this. We will be continuing this independently, with peers, during guided reading sessions and in our class novel. We will also be looking at the area in which we need to focus on to become a balanced reader.

Mathematics: This term we will be focussing on shapes both 2D and 3D last term this was identified to be an area needing consolidating, we will also be going back into fractions and decimals to better our understanding.

Science: This term we will be looking at Physical science and how light acts in different circumstances. We will be engaging in more experiments and developing our inquiry skills.

HASS: This term we will be looking at History focussing on the First fleet and the reason for journeying to Australia. We will also be looking at the contact between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the European people. We will be continuing this deeper to explore when the European people colonised

Health: We will begin our Child protection curriculum by looking at safety and how we can put this into our play and lives.

Art: We will be connecting our maths to art and looking at 3D elements.

HOMEWORK

Last term, we started doing a reading log in which the expectation was that students read for 20 minutes every night (Monday to Thursday). Some students have gone the extra mile in completing two or even three of these. This term, I am going to be frequently checking these. If students are going to not being meeting this, they will be catching this up in their own time (recess, lunch or during free time).

Students will also be asked to complete an additional activity that will be provided on the Monday of each week. They will be allowed to work on this throughout the week with this being linked to their learning. I would also like to do an oral presentation later in the term in which they expectation is that they complete this in place of their homework. They will be given 2-3 weeks. More detail will come later on

Although reading will be set, if students do not complete the set work in class to a high standard this will also become homework. I will allow students an adequate amount of time in class to complete this and it teaches students to be responsible and manage their time effectively.

EXPECTATIONS

My expectations of Pod 2A are fair and are co-constructed with the class. Our aim as a class is to continue to make a learning environment where each member feels **valued** and **safe**. We have had extensive conversations about being kind and how it looks and may change in situations. Being kind does not only apply to each other but also to all adults (including visitors and TRTs). We as a class are fortunate to have such amazing SSOs to support us with our learning and wellbeing. Therefore, it is important that we treat them with respect and are kind.

My expectations will remain high as I expect improvement from everyone within the class as this is an achievable goal. My aim is for every member to feel challenged and stretched so that they can develop skills that they will need as lifelong learners.

As a class, we have agreed to take ownership of our learning and will make decisions that is best for that. I expect **maximum effort** from everyone. I want to continue to create a safe environment in which students can take risks with their learning and receive extra support if they need some additional help. I want everyone to feel safe to ask questions so they can maximise their learning opportunities.

Feedback will also be a major focus within the class to firstly focus on the positive then on how they can continue to ‘stretch’. Feedback is most effective when it is from a variety of different sources (self-feedback, peer feedback and teacher feedback). We will be practising our feedback so that this can be effective and implemented. We are all life-long learners with ways we can improve. It is okay to feel like learning is tricky but we need to make sure that we are also asking questions.

This term, I am going to create a visual display in which we can monitor our zones of regulation and look at the catastrophe scale.

DATES TO REMEMBER

| Term 3 2021 | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 1 | 19/7 First Day of Term | 20/7 | 21/7 | 22/7 | 23/7 |
| 2 | 26/7 | 27/7 | 28/7 | 29/7 Mr. Sims Observation. | 30/7 |
| 3 | 2/8 SAPSASA Basketball | 3/8 Governing Council | 4/8 | 5/8 | 6/8 |
| 4 | 9/8 | 10/8 Stephanie Alexander | 11/8 Stephanie Alexander | 12/8 | 13/8 Assembly – 2:20 Pod 2A sharing |
| 5 | 16/8 Science Week | 17/8 | 18/8 | 19/8 | 20/8 |
| 6 | 23/8 Book Week begins → | 24/8 | 25/8 Book Fair → | 26/8 | 27/8 1:50 Book Week Performance. |
| 7 | 30/8 PAT Testing → | 31/8 | 1/9 | 2/9 Mr. Sims Observation. | 3/9 |
| 8 | 6/9 Show Day | 7/9 PAT Testing → Mr. Sims Observation. | 8/9 | 9/9 RU OK? Day | 10/9 2:20 - Assembly |
| 9 | 13/9 PAT Testing → Interviews → | 14/9 | 15/9 | 16/9 | 17/9 IFEP has got talented. |
| 10 | 20/9 | 21/9 | 22/9 | 23/9 | 24/9 Last Day of Term. Early Finish. – 2.05pm |