



## Term 1 Overview

### English

During Term 1 Pod 2B will participate in a daily literacy block involving spelling, reading and writing activities.

Activities will include spelling and grammar activities utilizing the 'Jolly Phonics' programme. Students will receive a list of 10 or 18 words. They will pick and choose from a list of activities to complete each day and will also record their words for the week into their diaries to allow for practise at home.

Each week student will explore and expand their writing skills following activities from Sheena Cameron's 'The Writing Book'. Students will build a tool kit of writing skills that will explore many different aspects including; generating ideas, sentence formation and editing skills.

Students will also participate in a weekly set of Reading activities that will explore and develop skills in Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Accuracy. It will be referred in the classroom as the 'Weekly CAFÉ'.

### Science

This term in Science students will explore the biology topic of 'Feathers, Fur or Leaves'. Students will be required to make predictions, observations and explanations as they begin to classify living and non-living things based on observed characteristics.

### Homework Expectations

Students will be encourage to complete homework tasks throughout the week which will support current and future skills that will be covered in class. They will come home on a task card and should not take longer than 30 minutes to complete. I encourage students to complete at least 3 tasks per week.

### Welcome to Term 1

Welcome to 2017 Pod 2B has spent the first 2 weeks establishing routines and developing our expectations of the classroom. We will have 5 basic principles to follow this year, 'Treat others as you would like to be treated your self', 'Pursue your personal best no matter who you work with', 'Be brave—participate to progress', 'It takes great strength to be sensible' and 'Have reasons for the things you say and do'.

I look forward to meeting you next Tuesday for Acquaintance Evening' and will explain things further and answer any questions you may have. Please ensure your child brings their diary to school every day and use it as our first point of communication.

### Maths

In Maths Pod 2B's numeracy block will be organised into some clearly defined parts.

Mental Routine lessons in which students perform short activities that help to refine skills and help develop different questioning techniques. Strategy Lessons are where students will develop and refine mathematical skills and give skills a name in order to help remember them. Problem Lessons are when students receive a 'real life' maths problem and use the STAR problem solving method to work through the challenges. STAR = Sort it out, Think about the strategy, Actually do it, Reflect on the process and answer you discovered.

Reflection lessons are where students will review and discuss successes and challenges they had in the problem solving process.

### History

This term will have a significant focus on the HASS subject of History. Students will use the inquiry process to develop their understanding of some key events of Australia's past. Students will explore the events that lead to the British government deciding to colonise Australia and the subsequent impact their arrival has had on the people and land.

### Important Dates

- Tuesday 14/2/17 Acquaintance Evening
- Week 4 Hockey Clinic
- Wednesday 8/3/17 Start Smart Presentation
- Monday 13/3./17 Adelaide Cup Day
- Weeks 8-11 Squash Clinics at Rec Centre
- Week 10 Parent Teacher Interviews
- Friday 14/4/17 Good Friday