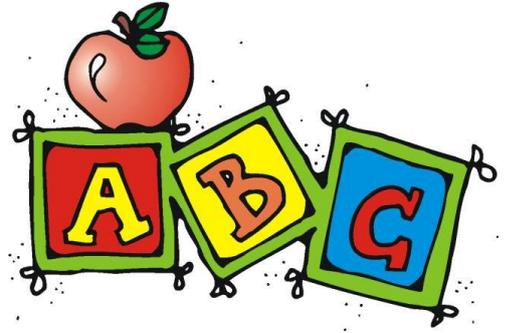


Room 1 Term 1 Newsletter



What to bring to school

Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared with the following:

- A school hat clearly named on the inside – to be kept at school in their tray
- A filled water bottle – water only
- A piece of fresh fruit – to be eaten during our fruit snack time
- Recess
- Lunch
- Green reading folder
- Yellow at-home reading and communication book – to be kept in reading folder

What not to bring to school

- Toys – we take no responsibility for lost toys
- Stationery – we provide everything!

Morning routine

Our morning routine remains the same from Term 1 to Term 4.

1. Hang backpack in locker
2. Place water bottle and piece of fruit on table
3. Place reading folder in year level basket
4. Answer the question of the day

We encourage you to support your child each morning, until they are feeling confident to complete the routine independently.

Our classroom

Our classroom door opens at 8.30am. For the first 2 weeks of Term 1, creative play sessions will be run each morning, finishing no later than 9.30am. Children must complete morning organisation routines before starting activities. These sessions are focussed on developing fine motor skills and social skills.

You are most welcome to join your child in one of the activities, until the second bell sounds at 8.55am.

During these sessions, we will be settling students into the classroom, working 1-on-1 with students in activities and checking in with parents.

We kindly ask that all social communication between parents please take place outside of the classroom. This provides your child and our other students with an opportunity to settle into the classroom, without the distraction of adult conversations.

Our building

Our building door opens at 8.30am, however once the second bell sounds at 8.55am, our building becomes a learning zone and remains that way until the end of day bell sounds at 3.05pm. We kindly ask that all parents and care-givers vacate the building once the second bells sounds and do not re-enter the building until the end of day bell sounds.

Library borrowing

Our class will visit the library each Tuesday with Lily to borrow a book to take home. The books your child borrows from the library are intended to be shared and enjoyed together.

We have provided your child with a named library bag for them to use throughout the year. We ask that you please ensure this bag and their library book(s) are sent to school with them each Tuesday.

Library books are not to be placed in your child's reading folder, as they are heavy and can break the folder.

At-home reading

We believe that it is essential for all students to spend time at home either being read to or practising their reading each day. Reading is a fundamental skill that should be fostered regardless of age or ability. Home reading is carefully monitored and consistent efforts are acknowledged and rewarded.

If you have any questions regarding at home reading or would like support with tips or strategies, please speak with one of us,

Expectations of at home reading

- Monday to Friday
- 1 reader or picture book (dependent on year level)

Reception students

Until reception students are assessed as being ready to take home decodable readers to read at home, we are asking that you please read the book we send home in your child's reading folder to them. This is intended to be an enjoyable time sharing books together and your child is not expected to read the book to you.

Once you have shared the book please record it in your child's reading record book. We aim to check

these daily and have your child select a new book to take home and share with you.

Year 1 students

Decodable and levelled readers that are matched to your child's letter-sound or independent reading level will be sent home for your child to read to you.

Please have your child record the title of the reader in their reading record book and initial/sign next to it, so that we know they have read with an adult.

Decodable readers can be read at home multiple times focussing on accuracy, comprehension and fluency. They will be changed once your child is assessed as fluent and levelled readers will be changed each Tuesday.

At home reading challenge

We have an at home reading challenge to encourage our students (and parents) to read at home.

Awards and rewards are given out each week in the classroom.

We ask that if your child has reached a number of nights read award you do not complete the award in their reading record book for/with them. We do this in class, along with a small presentation ceremony and a pick from the treasure chest.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual literacy enhancement program running from 28 January to 4 September 2020. We'd love every student in Room 1 to join the 132,000 students who read 12 books and earned awards. Look out for further information and a record sheet to come in the next few weeks.

Read Write Inc

From Week 3 onwards, our Read Write Inc lessons will commence at 9am. Attendance will be taken promptly at 8.55am, followed by students moving to their Read Write Inc group's learning space.

Please ensure that your child is in our classroom by 8.55am, ready to start the day.

Subitising lists

To help support your child's learning in mathematics, we will be sending home a subitise list for your child to practice at home with you.

Subitising is the ability to instantaneously recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them. An example often used to explain this, is to think of a die – we immediately recognise the number of dots without having to count each one individually.

Here is a short video explaining subitising;
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lwt7NgfeZRY>

Subitise lists will be attached to the current page of your child's reading record book and assessed weekly.

Staff toilets

The staff toilets, which are located just outside of our classroom are strictly for staff use only! Please ensure that you go to the toilet before dropping off or picking up your child from school. Pre-schoolers needing to use the toilet may use student toilets in the corridor.

Late arrivals

If you drop your child late to school please help them transition into the classroom by encouraging them to independently unpack their bag, quietly join the class group and await teacher instruction. If you would like to discuss anything with us, please see us at the end of the school day or send us a private message via Class Dojo.

Please visit Deb in the front office before bringing your child to the classroom. Deb will sign your child in for the day and will provide you with a late slip, which will need to be given to the teacher.

Early collection

If you need to collect your child early from school, you must visit Deb in the front office before coming to the classroom. Deb will sign your child out for the day and will provide you with a collection slip, which needs to be given to the teacher.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available from 8.30am to 8.55am and is served from the Stephanie Alexander kitchen, which is just outside our classroom.

While we encourage all of our students to attend Breakfast Club, whether it be to eat their first or second breakfast, we do ask that they complete their morning organisational routines before doing so.

Even though the classroom is open, we ask that all our students eat their breakfast at the Breakfast Club table or bench, as butter, jam and desks don't mix well.

Please be mindful that the school day starts at the sound of the second bell at 8.55am, so if your child is wishing to attend Breakfast Club, please make sure that they arrive at school with enough time to do so.

Parent/teacher communication

Our main means of parent/teacher communication is Class Dojo. This is a free classroom communication app, which allows us to share with you what is happening in the classroom through photographs and stories. It also allows for you to directly message us, through a private messaging service.

We are hopeful that all our parents will connect to our Room 1 2020 classroom. A Class Dojo invitation was sent home in your welcome note, which provides you with instructions on how to connect.

Alternatively, you can send us a dated note in your child's reading folder, which was sent home on the first day of school. We check these folders daily!

Please be aware that we are not always able to check or respond to Class Dojo messages during teaching time, and messages will only be responded to between the hours of 8.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Hats and clothing

Please ensure that your child has a hat to wear each day and that it is clearly named. We encourage our students to keep their hat in their tray, so that they are aware of where it is at each playtime.

We also ask that you please ensure your child's clothing is clearly named. Jumpers, t-shirts, dresses and pants all go walkabouts throughout the year!

Illness

If your child is not well, please keep him/her at home as illness can spread quickly.

If your child requires medication during the school day, please let us know so we can advise you of the process.

Following any absence, it is a Department for Education requirement that a parent and/or care-giver provides a reason. We ask that you please send us a private message via Class Dojo, phone Deb in the front office, or speak to one of us.

Headlice

These annoying little critters are a fact of life anywhere there are children in close contact with one another.

Please check your child's hair on a regular basis and keep long hair tied back. If you do find live lice or eggs, please treat your child's hair before sending them back to school.

It is important that you also let one of us know, so a note can be sent home to all families.

Tissues

A donation of one tissue box from each family is greatly appreciated, as it helps to stop the spreading of germs from runny noses!

Spending money

We ask that parents or students please give us spending money for safe keeping! We record the amount, keep it in our money box, and return it at play times.

This is a much safer option than keeping it in bags, purses/wallets, or in open pockets!

The parent/teacher relationship

We would like to take a moment to highlight the importance of the parent/teacher relationship.

It takes a village to raise a child who is healthy, caring and responsible. In school, this village starts with the network formed by parents, teachers and leadership

who understand that their job is to work together to support and guide the development of your child. Be an advocate for your child, because a strong parent/teacher relationship is paramount to your child's success at school.

Please approach us if you have any concerns about your child's learning or social or emotional wellbeing at school.

If your child is having a problem at school.

- Sit down and talk with your child. Ask your child to explain the problem from his or her perspective, so that you can support them as you work through the issue.
- Request a meeting. Make an appointment with your child's teacher to discuss the problem.
- Keep a positive attitude. Always remember that you and the teacher are working together to help your child.
- Ask questions. Do not be afraid to ask questions or request more information.

Please remember that If at any time throughout the term you have a question, concern or issue, please be sure to come and speak with one of us. Alternatively, you can send us a message via Class Dojo or contact us via our email addresses listed below.

Lily.Brammer574@schools.sa.edu.au
Donna.Read709@schools.sa.edu.au

Important Term 1 dates:

Term 1 – Tuesday 28th January to Thursday 9th April.

Week 2

- Tuesday 4/2 – Footsteps dance
- Tuesday 4/2 – Stephanie Alexander
- Friday 7/2 – Assembly hosted by Pod 1

Week 3

- Tuesday 11/2 – Footsteps dance

Week 4

- Tuesday 18/2 – Footsteps dance
- Tuesday 18/2 – 6pm Footsteps disco
- Tuesday 18/2 – AGM
- Wednesday 19/2 – Pupil free day
- Friday 21/2 – Assembly hosted by Pod 2a

Week 5

- Tuesday 25/2 – Footsteps dance
- Tuesday 25/2 – Stephanie Alexander
- Tuesday 25/2 – Governing council TBC
- Friday 28/2 – School closure
- Saturday 29/2 – School birthday celebration

Week 6

- Monday 2/3 – School 50th birthday
- Tuesday 3/3 – Footsteps dance
- Friday 6/3 – Assembly hosted by Room 12

Week 7

- Monday 9/3 – Public holiday (Adelaide Cup)

Week 8

- Tuesday 17/3 – Governing council TBC
- Friday 20/3 – National day against bullying and violence
- Friday 20/3 – Assembly

Week 9

- Friday 27/3 – Sports day

Week 10

- Friday 3/4 – Assembly hosted by Room 3

Week 11

- Tuesday 7/4 – Farm market table
- Thursday 9/4 – Last day of term