



# Room 2 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 or vegetable – to be eaten during our fruit snack time
- Recess
- Lunch
- Blue 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. Sit on the mat, ready for the day!

## COVID

Due to COVID, parents are asked not to enter the building. At 8.45 we will be outside available to check in with parents and greet students for the morning. Students are to line up along the windows of our classroom ready for the second bell at 8.55am, where we will then move to the classroom. If you need to enter the buildings for any reason, you are required to sign in at the front office to fulfill contact tracing requirements.

## Library borrowing

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

We have provided your child with a named blue folder for them to use throughout the year. Please ensure their library book is sent to school with them each Tuesday to be returned and so they can borrow a new book.

## 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 ask 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.

We are still waiting for our order of yellow home reader diaries to arrive. When they do, please record any shared book 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 regularly. Repeated exposure of the same book helps children remember patterns, novel words and connect key concepts.

## 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 as soon as possible.

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 weekly.

## **Literacy Block**

Literacy is the focus of our Site Improvement Plan and a lot of planning goes in to making sure students engage in a high-quality literacy block. Our literacy block includes Read Write Inc, phonemic awareness, shared reading, guided reading, oral language and writing.

### Read Write Inc

From Week 4 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 arrives at school on time, ready to start the day.

### Guided Reading

Guided reading is an important part of our literacy block as it allows us to monitor where our students are at with their learning and to identify skills that need focus. We use running record levels, RWI levels and Phonological Awareness Skill Mapping (PASM) levels to group students with similar needs so we can target our teaching.

### **High Expectations**

At Ingle Farm East we have high expectations of all students when it comes to their behaviour and learning.

### Behaviour Management

As a part of our behaviour management, we talk about behaviours that are above the line (being kind, listening, working hard), below the line (calling out, interrupting, tattling) and bottom line (pushing, yelling, hitting). We use logical consequences when behaviours from below the line and bottom line are displayed. Logical consequences teach students the hows and whys of good decisions, rather than making them sorry for making a bad choice. When the consequence is related, reasonable, and delivered respectfully, the child is able to make the connection with their own behaviour and is less likely to resist or deny responsibility.

### Student learning

Students are made aware that we have high expectations for their learning and participation in the classroom. Part of how we do this is by creating student goals (English, Maths and Social). We aim for these to be updated every 5 weeks and communicate these to parents. Goals will be visible in the classroom and students will be aware of their goals, learn to articulate them and refer to them in their learning. Goals will be made in the next few weeks as we assess and get to know each child.

### **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 Seesaw.

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. \*Please note that due to COVID restrictions Deb will now phone over to the classroom. Your child will then be sent to the office to meet you there.

### **Breakfast Club**

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

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 Seesaw. 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 2 2021 classroom. An invitation was sent home in in week 1, which provides you with instructions on how to connect.

Please be aware that we are not always able to check or respond to Seesaw 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 Seesaw, 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. 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.

### **Meet the Teacher**

On Monday week 3 (8/2/21) at 2.30pm, we will be holding a Meet the Teacher. Please join us in room 2 to meet us (if you haven't already) so we can go through any important information and you can ask any questions.

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 Seeaw or contact us via our email addresses listed below.

Sarah.grove498@schools.sa.edu.au  
Donna.Read709@schools.sa.edu.au

### **Important Term 1 dates:**

#### **Term 1 – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April.**

#### **Week 3**

- Monday 8/2 – Meet the Teacher 2.30pm

#### **Week 4**

- Monday 15/2 – AGM 3.30pm

#### **Week 7**

- Monday 9/3 – Public holiday (Adelaide Cup)
- Thursday 11/3 – Pupil Free Day

#### **Week 9**

- Friday 26/3 – Sports day TBC

#### **Week 10**

- Friday 2/4 – Public Holiday (Good Friday)

#### **Week 11**

- Monday 5/4 – Public Holiday (Easter Monday)
- Friday 9/4 – Last day of term

Thank you,

Sarah Stagg and Donna Read

