



# Room 4 News

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Dear Parents / Caregivers,

I would like to welcome you and your child to my room. We expect to have a very busy year engaging with a community of learners. I would like to give you some information to ensure a smooth start to the year.

## Northern Block Closure

At this point in time we have been advised by the Department of Education to maintain our arrangement regarding Social distancing and parents ie the Northern Block is closed to parents entering. As has been the case for most of last year, if you would like to see me for any reason you can make an appointment via See Saw or come to the outside window where you are able to deliver a quick message. Also I will be out in the yard every morning before the bell goes for the commencement of the school day and aim to be outside every afternoon except Tuesdays when all staff are required to attend staff meeting.

## Staff toilets

The staff toilets which are located just outside Room 1 are strictly for staff use only .

## Morning Routine

We have a regular morning routine to ensure that children quickly settle into their classroom. This is as follows:

- Students line up in our allocated lining up space (outside our room) when the first bell goes. When we go inside the classroom, students are asked to:
- Put their reader in the box for the reader folders.
- Find their lead pencil.
- Sit on the carpet ready to begin the day.

Students are given the opportunity to change readers during our reading time and during library borrowing time.

## School / Home Communication

This year our class is connected to See Saw which will be a way that you are able to communicate with me.

The information to parents and your log in should have been received by you all now. Please contact me if you need any support with this. Some relevant information is that I will not be responding to any messages sent between the hours of 5pm and 8am.

## Absences

We are legally required to provide a reason for a child's absence. If your child is away from school please let me know in person or by using See Saw or let the office know via a phone message, text message or Skoolbag.

## Healthy Snack

We incorporate Fruit and veggie breaks' into our daily routine. We aim to have our 'Fruit and veggie. break' at approximately 10am. This break is of about 5 -10 minutes duration and gives the students an opportunity to get a drink of water and have a quick snack (ie one piece of fruit). We are asking that each child bring to school each day a bottle of water, clearly labelled with their name, which they can leave on their desk, and a small amount of either / or fruit and vegetables that they can eat very quickly during this break time. It is imperative that students bring their own bottle of water as they are not permitted to go out of the room on a regular basis to get drinks.

Suggestions for snacks to eat during this time include celery and carrot sticks, fresh fruit, rice cakes, cheese or cheese sticks, tomatoes and mushrooms.' I also allow students to have a small tub of yoghurt or cheese and crackers during our 'Fruit and Veggie break', however packaged or processed foods and sugary or salty snacks are not suitable for eating during 'Brain Breaks'.

At the time of writing this newsletter Our school is in the yellow suspension zone so students and staff who live in the area or green area can bring fresh fruit to school. If it has been brought from a yellow area the fruit can be taken home again. If it has been brought from a green area into a yellow it must be eaten or disposed of at school.

As this is subject to change, please refer to the PIRSA website.

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### Naming Belongings.

Could you please assist your child to take responsibility for their own belongings, ie. Lunch boxes, drink bottles, clothing, by clearly marking your child's name on them. We have a lost property box outside our classroom where your child may look for any lost items.

### Toys at School.

During this year I will be strongly encouraging students not to bring toys to school for a number of reasons, these being

- They are a distraction to school work
- The toys are the students' responsibility and if they get lost or are broken, students invariably become upset.
- They can be the cause of conflict between students.
- The school is not responsible to cover the cost of replacement or mending of broken toys.

If students are playing with toys during learning time, then I give the students a warning and tell them to put it in a safe place where they will not play with it. If the student continues to play with the toy then I confiscate it until the end of the day. It is also a school rule that 'swap cards' are not

permitted at school. In the past there have been instances where younger students have not understood the process

involved in 'swapping' cards and have become upset when they have realised the consequences of their actions. Also if these cards are at school there is the risk of them being lost or stolen. This activity is best left for home amongst their friends. If there are any questions, please see me.

### Spending money

There is a 'spending money' box on my desk. If your child has spending money it is preferable for them to keep it in there until playtime. The process is that the child gives me the money first thing in the morning and I will place it in the child's spending money bag (a zip lock bag with his/her name on it). They then need to get the money from me during eating time at lunch or recess.

### Readers

As you will be aware by now your child has borrowed levelled readers to take home. The level of reader your child is on was determined by testing by the previous year's teachers. I am aware that many students were taking home decodable readers last year. Some students will be taking home decodable readers as well as levelled readers once Read, Write, Inc, begins in week 4.

### Sight Words

Students who recognise more than 400 sight words will not be given any more as that is all there is. For the other students, sight words will be allocated to them according to where they were up to last year. We are using the Oxford Sight Word list. This will be done in the next two weeks. Just a reminder that sight words need to be recognised and spoken on sight by the student, which is different from spelling words where students use the 'look, cover, write, check' way of remembering them. When your child says the sight word correctly then you can put a tick in the appropriate box. When each box on the sheet of words has 5 ticks, then the sheet of words is changed for the next one.

### Spelling words

Spelling words are learnt during Read, Write. Inc. lessons.

### Library borrowing

Students will be able to borrow books during our class library borrowing time which is on Friday mornings.

### Donations of Tissues

As tissues are not included in our classroom allocation of materials, we are asking that each child brings a box of tissues. If everyone donates a box this usually supplies the class for the whole year.

### Other teachers

Angela Princi will be taking the class for Technology and Media Arts, Charlotte Holmes will be taking the students for Performing arts, Dylan Baker will be taking the students for P.E. and Vikki Hutchen will be taking the class for Japanese.

| Dates to remember |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 15/2              | AGM                       |
| 26/2              | Assembly                  |
| 1/3               | Pupil Free Day            |
| 26/3              | Sport's Day               |
| 29/3              | Teacher—parent interviews |
| 1/4               | Assembly                  |



# Room 4 Overview

## English

- Read, Write Inc.—inclusive of spelling, handwriting and phonics
- Comprehension—identify parts of a story : Making connections and Questioning
- Writing– Recount and Narrative genre and inclusive of grammar
- Vocabulary - activities to assist students understand what they read—activities to extend student's vocabulary

## Maths

- Subitising
- Number and Place value
- Patterns and algebra
- Ann Baker's 'The secret code' (aspects of)

## Science—with Angela Princi

- Living things—animals and plants and habitat.

## S.O.S.E.

- Setting up class rules and organisation
- Class monitors
- School values (unpacking them)

## HASS

- History
- Year 1—Then and Now
- Year 2—The past in the present

## Physical Education—with Dylan Baker

- Weeks 1-2- expectations and team building activities
- Weeks 3 - 7 - learning fundamental movement skills - athletics and practicing events leading up to sports day
- last few weeks of term - learning AFL with sporting schools coach facilitating this.

## Health

- Hygiene
- Zones of Regulation
- Growth Mindset
- Child Protection Curriculum—The right to be safe

## Design Technologies—with Angela Princi

### Students will be -

- learning about simple and complex machines.
- describing how simple and complex machines help us in our everyday life.
- create a 'wind racer' (wheel and axel), a lego crane (pulley system) and a natural materials broom (lever).
- learning about unusual machines such as Rube Goldberg machines, with students designing a 'fantastical' machine.

In Digital Technology we will be learning about staying safe online.

## Performing Arts— With Charlotte Holmes

### Superheroes

- exploring the elements of drama (role, character and movement) through creating our own superhero
- characters and how they act, walk and talk. We will then use these in stories and self-devised short plays.

### Visual Arts

#### - with me

Self portraits

Line

## Japanese—with Vikki Hutchen

Students will be learning about Japanese culture—such things as food, way of life, homes, festivals and celebrations.

