



Room 4 Newsletter

Term 1

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.

Important information

This year there is a student in our class with a nut allergy. As the safety of students is paramount, our classroom is a nut free room.

Before School

The Northern Building is open from 8:30 in the morning to allow students to come in and put their belongings inside. They may choose to play outside- only on the pavement area (including the yellow playground), where a teacher is on duty, until the first bell goes at 8:55 when the students must go to their classrooms.

Morning Routine

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

Students are asked to:

Put their reader in the box for the reader folders.

Find their lead pencil.

Read a book quietly to themselves or an adult or participate in using some activity equipment, or alternatively they may go outside to play until the bell rings

Sit on the carpet when the bell rings.

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

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 the day bell sounds at 3:05pm. We kindly ask that all parents and caregivers remain outside of the building until the end of the day bell sounds and your child will come out to meet you. In wet weather parents are able to wait under the trees or under the Resource Centre verandah. Thank you to those parents who have respected our request and are meeting their child/ren outside of the building.

Staff toilets

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

School / Home Communication

This year our class is connected to class Dojo 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. 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 Class Dojo 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

vegie. 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'.

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.

Read, Write, Inc.

A separate pamphlet about Read, Write, Inc will be accompanying this newsletter.

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 allocated 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.

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 3.

Library borrowing

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

Other teachers

This term, Angela Princi will be taking the class for Technology and The Arts, Dylan Baker will be taking the students for P.E. and Phi Sensei will be taking the class for Japanese.

Parent/ Teacher Interviews

I will be on leave for the last two weeks of this term. As a result, I have scheduled my interviews for the week beginning Monday 23/3/2020. More information will be forthcoming closer to the date.

Parent Volunteers

If you would like to support our learning in the classroom in other ways eg taking a small group for cooking, listening to reading etc. please let me know. Parents working in the classroom are required to have completed the Parent Volunteer training and have had a criminal history check. If you wish to become a parent volunteer, please see Matt or Deb for information.

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.

History

If you and/or any members of your family have any objects/artefacts from the 1970's I would really like them to have a visit in our room, especially as it relate to our School's birthday celebrations , which is coming very soon.

If you have any questions, please come and have a chat or make an appointment to see me.

Kind regards

Robyn Mills

Dates to remember	
28/2/20120	School Closure Day
29/2/2020	School's 50 th birthday celebrations
2/3/2020	School to celebrate 50 th birthday
9/3/2020	Adelaide Cup Day
20/3/2020	Whole school assembly
23/3/2020	Teacher-parent interviews for Room 4
27/3/2020	Sport's Day
9/4/2020	Last day of term

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

- 'The brain'
- Primary Connections Science : 'All mixed up'

S.O.S.E.

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

HASS

- History
- - IFEPS 50th birthday celebrations
- Year 1—Then and Now
- Year 2—The past in the present

Physical Education

With Dylan Baker

- Developing loco-motor skills
- Sport's Day

Design Technologies (Ms. Princi)

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- In Technology students will be learning both Digital Technology and Design and Technology throughout the year. In Term 1 students will be learning about Digital and Computational Thinking skills
- Reception to year 2: common digital systems, online safety, representing data in a variety of ways and

The Arts— Dance and Drama wth Angela Princi

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- With me**
- Visual Arts
- Dance
- Footsteps dance classes
- learning dance styles from the 1970s as a lead up to the school's 50th birthday celebrations and creating dance steps using a 70s theme.
- Drama
- learning about how to perform facial expressions to show feelings and miming animal movements and traits.

Health

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

Japanese

- With Phi Sensei
- Greeting and bowing
- recognizing Hiragana and some Kanji numbers
- recognising sounds and rhythms of spoken Japanese
- participating in New year celebration