



Welcome to Room 1

Dear Families,

A very warm welcome to the new year to families. Welcome to our new Reception students who are just starting their school journey. We also welcome back our Year 1 students who have already had a taste of school life. We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break together.

Room 1 has 2 teachers. Donna Read will be in the classroom on Monday and Friday and Lily Brammer will be in on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

To get the new year underway here are a few notes, which we hope will help you and your child settle smoothly into the routine of school.

Before school

Please encourage your child to play on the pavement and playground areas as these are the only areas where there is a teacher on duty from 8.30am. Children may come into the corridor to put their bags away after 8.30am. They will then go out to play until the bell rings at 8.55am. This is when the school day begins. Children are also welcome in the room to organize themselves for the day before this time when a teacher is present. We will have activities set-up and will use this time to check communication/reading log books, check sight words, and listen to reading. Children need to bring in their reading folder, fruit and water bottle, and put them on their tables. Please encourage them to do this themselves.

Stationery

Students will be given their books in the first few weeks and we will be providing labels and plastic covers. Students will be sharing pencils, textas, glue sticks and scissors, so there is no need to bring their own pencils and/or pencil cases from home.

Sharing

An important part of our literacy program is oral language, so sharing is planned with language activities, which provide your

child with opportunities to practice the skills needed to be a confident speaker, a good listener and thinker. Sharing will take place during our morning circle time each day. Now and again we may ask your child to bring a special item from home, so please regularly check the notice board, Class Dojo and your child's reading folder for a sharing note.

Water Bottles

We ask that students please bring a bottle containing **water** to school, to be kept on their desk for easy access whilst they are working. There will also be a red container in the classroom



where bottles can be kept if drinks are frozen. All other drinks must be kept in their bag and can be drunk in the corridor or outside. **Please ensure all bottles and lunch boxes are named.**

Allergies

We have several students in our block who have severe food allergies. For this reason our room will be a **nut free** classroom and we ask that your child does not bring any product containing nuts to school. This includes museli bars and nutella. Your support in helping to keep these students safe is very much appreciated.

Spending Money

We prefer for students to give their canteen spending money to us in the mornings to look after. We will record the amount and hand back money at play times. This is a safer option than keeping it in their bags or open pockets.

Fruit Break

We encourage students to bring a piece of **fresh** fruit or vegetable each day to place on their desks with their water bottle. Dried fruit, canned fruit or fruit in jelly is

discouraged. They will eat around 10.00am and it will give them the energy needed to help them focus and concentrate on their learning, until the next break. Students generally eat their own fruit during this time, however we do have a classroom fruit bowl for the occasions where it might have been left at home.

Communication/reading log books

Your child's communication/reading log book will be kept in their reading folder. This is one of the ways you can communicate with us and vice versa. We are asking that students please put them in the green baskets in the guided reading area each morning. These will be checked daily and we will sign to let you know that your note has been read and will reply if needed. Please make sure that you check your child's folder and communication/reading log book daily, to ensure that all notices are received.

Readers

All Junior Primary students borrow 5 readers, which they keep for the week and read each day at school. Your child will bring their readers home each night in their reading folder. Please spend 10-15 minutes listening to your child read at least 1 of their books each weeknight and then fill out and sign the communication/reading log book inside their folder. **Student reading progress is especially evident when practice at home and school is a daily routine.**

Your child will change their readers on a given day each week and a note will be sent home to notify you of this. Most students will have letter sounds to practice at home and some students will also have sight words to practice later in the term.



Library books

We will visit the library as a class each Friday to borrow. Please use the supplied library bag to protect the book on its journey to and from school. Library books should not be kept in your child's reading folder as they are too heavy and break the folders.

Illness

If your child is not well please keep him/her at home as illness can spread quickly. If your child needs medication, let us know so we can advise you of the process. Do not leave any medication in lunch boxes or bags. Following any absence, it is a DECD requirement that you write an explanation note in your child's communication book, speak to one of us or phone the school so we can complete our roll books.

Tissues

The donation of a box of tissues from each family, helps to stop the spread of germs from runny noses! Thank you!



Helping in the classroom

We would love your support in the classroom in any way but especially listening to reading and/or sight words. There will also be opportunities to come on excursion, or help with cooking later in the year. Adults working with students do need a Criminal Check and to complete volunteer training. Please enquire at the office or speak to one of us you are interested.

Early Collection

If you need to collect your child early or during the day for appointments please remember to go to the office first for a sign out slip, which can then be given to the teacher to record in the roll book.

Late arrivals

We encourage you to be at school before the bell at 8.55am, so your child does not miss the start of the day. If you do arrive after 9.00am please get a late slip from the office and you or your child give it to the class teacher.

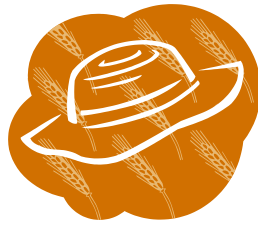
Head Lice

These annoying little critters are a fact of life anywhere there are children in close contact with one another. We understand how frustrating and difficult it can be to get rid of them too. Please check your child's hair weekly and keep hair tied back. If you do find lice (live) or nits (eggs) please treat your child's hair before sending them back to school. Also please let one of us know, and a note will be

sent home to all families. Confidentiality is ensured.

No hat/No play

Please make sure your child has a sun safe hat (named on the inside) to wear at school every day. Students without hats are required to stay under the blue sails at playtimes. If the temperature at lunchtime is 37 degrees or above the children will play in their classroom under teacher supervision.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Your child has the opportunity to take part in the PRC this year and further information will be coming out at a later date. It is a fantastic opportunity for your child to be rewarded by the Premier of SA for reading or being read just 12 books before September. Your support is needed to read to your child and then fill in the title, author and sign the sheet for each book. It can also be a book you share together from home or borrowed from the school or public library. When the sheet is completed it is given to one of us or Dawn in the library. Children completing the challenge in the first year receive a certificate and bronze medal in the second year. From then on Silver, Gold, Champion, Legend and in their 7th year a Hall of Fame medal.

Questions/concerns

We hope these notes will answer some of the queries you may have about our routines and we shall do our best to keep you informed about class happenings as the year progresses. Please do not hesitate to speak to one of us if you have any concerns. After school is generally the best time except **Tuesdays** when we have Staff Meeting.

Collecting children

The corridor is a popular place to meet your child at the end of the day but being the first classroom in the building means the corridor can be very congested at the end of the day. If your child is confident enough to meet you outside after school in a special spot this is a great way to build their independence and would help ease the congestion.

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. In addition to this, we use Class Dojo within the classroom to reinforce above the line behavior choices. Students are rewarded with a pick from our reward box for every 10 points they earn.

Finally, do come and introduce yourself and other family members or friends who may be picking your child up from school. We are looking forward to meeting you all and getting to know your child and family. We are also looking forward to working as a team to make this year an exciting and positive learning time for everyone.

Kind regards,
Lily and Donna.

Tuesday 6/2	Footsteps Dance
Tuesday 6/2	Acquaintance Night
Tuesday 13/2	Footsteps Dance
Wednesday 14/2	Living safely with pets
Tuesday 20/2	Footsteps Dance
Thursday 22/2	RAA Street Smart
Monday 26/2	Pupil free day
Tuesday 27/2	Footsteps Dance
Monday 12/3	Public holiday
Monday 19/3 to Friday 23/3	Term 1 interviews
Wednesday 21/3	Great galaxies performance
Friday 30/3	Public holiday
Monday 2/4	Public holiday
Friday 6/4	Sports day
Friday 13/4	Last day of term

Dates to remember

