

# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

Principal: Jennifer Hall



## Term 1 Overview 2018 Year 1

15 February 2018

Dear Families

Welcome to Term 1, 2018! We have had a great start to the year and it was wonderful to see such happy, bright little faces every day.

In this letter we will briefly explain some of the engaging programs that will be happening this term as well as inform you of a few housekeeping matters. We hope this information supports you and your child's return to school.

### **'Getting to Know You' Interviews**

Each year, we hold 'Getting to Know You' interviews with parents and carers within the first few weeks of term 1. This year, our interviews will be held on Wednesday 21 February 3:30pm – 7:00 pm in the school library. These interviews are a chance for you to meet with the teachers and provide them with any important information about your child. The appointment schedule is available at the Welcome Barbecue; please book in a time with your child's teacher. If you were unable to attend the barbecue, please call into or phone the front office to book a time to meet with your child's teacher.

### **Investigations**

Our days start with investigations. These are linked to all areas of the Australian Curriculum and offer the students an opportunity to explore and deepen their knowledge and understanding of the areas we are studying throughout the week.

### **English**

#### Reading

In our rich literacy program children will take part in a range of reading activities related to all areas of the curriculum. This year we are continuing to use The Daily 5 to structure that the kindergarten children used last year as part of our balanced literacy program. The Daily 5 structure enables students to have choice about the order they complete planned and levelled learning activities. Students participate in a short whole class focused lessons before moving to complete their independent literacy activities. Whilst the students are engaging in these independent tasks, teachers will be conferencing one on one with students or working with small groups for reading, writing and spelling areas of need.

#### Writing

Our social purpose for writing this term will be writing to recount. Students will learn how to include specific information (such as who, what, where, when, why and how) and to use time connective words to sequence their writing (such as first, next, or then). Together, students and teachers will develop a success criteria and assessment markers for all to refer to when writing and editing. We will also explore how writing changes for different purposes and different audiences.

## **Mathematics**

The Australian Curriculum divides Mathematics into three content strands: number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability. This term students will be ordering, writing and reading numbers to 100 and exploring a range of strategies to develop addition and subtraction skills. They will also be learning to measure and compare using informal units of measurement. Again, students will be involved in the creation of success criteria for these areas so that all students are aware of what they need to do in order to demonstrate proficiency.

## **Science**

We will be building student's science inquiry skills and exploring chemical reactions in foods. By the end of the inquiry, students will be able to identify how and why chemical changes occur in various food products.

## **Physical Education and Health**

Class PE activities provide students opportunities to use fundamental movement skills to improve coordination. Students will also be participating in rotations activities which focus on cooperation, team work and motor skills. Our students will have specialist PE lessons with Ms Taylor. Please consult the specialist teacher's overview for details of the program. In addition to our specialist PE classes on Friday, we will also be teaching short PE sessions throughout the week. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate shoes each day for physical activities.

For our unit of work in health, Year One students are exploring Macgregor's Positive Behaviours for Learning, focusing on expectations in the areas of safety, respect, responsibility and learning. We will also explore friendships and bullying including what it is to be a good friend and what we can do if we experience bullying. Bullying is defined as a behaviour that is ongoing, targeted and intentionally causes hurt or harm. We will use drama, role plays, stories and discussions to explore aspects of positive relationships.

## **The Arts**

Year One students will be attending specialist classes for the Arts this with Christine Trull. Students will also be exploring the creative arts within our Investigations and participating in drama lessons within the year one timetable.

## **Specialist Program for Year One Classes**

Specialist classes (Spanish, Art and PE) will occur every Friday before break 1. Please see the specialist term letter for further details. Library day and time will be confirmed by your classroom teacher as soon as the library timetable has been finalised. Please ensure your child has a labelled library bag that they bring on their library day.

## **Homework**

Our homework program will focus on daily reading and using Reading Eggs at home. We request that you listen to your child read each night and record their reading in their home reading log. Please send the log to school in the reading bag so that the teachers can talk to your child about their home reading. Children will be given an opportunity each day to choose a new home reading book. The same reading folder as last year can be used if you wish or new reading bags are available for purchase from the front office at a cost of \$10. Please send in reading bags as soon as possible so we can start our reading program. We are continuing to support reading at home by making a Reading Eggs account available for all children. Reading Eggs log on details will be sent home shortly.

## Housekeeping

- Please label your child's possessions (hats, jumpers, lunch boxes, water bottles etc.).
- The daily program starts at 9.00am after our morning assembly at 8.55am. If your child is absent from school please call the Front Office, email [info@macgregorps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@macgregorps.act.edu.au) or use the Macgregor School App and your class teacher will be informed.
- At 10.00am every day we have a fruit break. We ask that children eat fresh fruit, vegetables or cheese only at this time.
- Please remember to include a water bottle every day.
- We would appreciate it if toys are not brought to school. If your child has a cuddly toy that they are particularly attached to and they cannot make it through the day without it, please talk to your class teacher about this and arrangements can be made to support your child.
- We welcome assistance from parents and carers; please speak to your child's teacher if you think you may be able to volunteer. A roster will be placed outside of the unit as soon as we have settled in to our year and are ready for your help.
- We are always happy to talk to you about any concerns that you may have involving your child. We are available some afternoons after class to chat, otherwise please make an appointment with us by either sending a note or emailing the front office.

Kind Regards,

Renee Sochacki, Ilse Arellano, Janet Hagan and Rebecca Bull