

Term 4 Overview 2017

Year 1

19 October 2017

Dear Families

In this letter we will briefly explain some of the engaging programs that will be happening this term. As always, some housekeeping matters are included to support you and your child's return to school for the final term of the year.

English

We are continuing with our Daily 5 literacy structure. Students complete a variety of activities during the day, including: read to self, read to someone, listen to reading, work on writing and word work. Whilst the students are engaging in these independent tasks, teachers will be conferencing one on one with students or in small groups for reading, writing and spelling instruction according to areas of need.

This term we have started to explore the social purpose of writing to entertain. Students will become familiar with this genre, its structural features and have opportunities to create their own narratives. We will be using several rich texts to explore the structure of narratives and to inspire children to create their own.

Mathematics

This term in Mathematics we will be inquiring into chance and probability where we will explore the language of 'will happen', 'won't happen', 'might happen', 'certain' and 'uncertain' through the examination of everyday events. In measurement we will be exploring volume and capacity using formal and informal units of measurement. We will also revisit the concepts of skip counting, place value, addition and subtraction and the duration of time specifically hour and the half hour.

Social Skills and Health

This term we will be having a big focus on cooperation and social skill development. We will be encouraging students to work with each other on projects, including art, craft and games. We will incorporate this into our Physical Education (PE) lessons where we will play cooperative games which will have the dual purpose of developing our fundamental motor skills and our abilities to work together. We will continue our cohort focus on mindfulness by using the MindUp and Growth Mindset programs that we commenced in term 2. Exploring the brain and understanding how their brains work assists students to be present, know how to be calm and develop their resilience.

Physical Education (PE)

Classroom teachers will be working collaboratively with our specialist PE teacher to further develop fundamental motor skills of kicking, throwing, running, dodging, catching and leaping activities. We will also focus on cooperative games and the theme of good teamwork.

Science

This term in our Up, Down and All Around unit we will inquire into changes in the landscape. We will observe and document how landscapes change over time and are influenced by both natural and human activity. Some key focus questions will be: What causes changes in landscapes over time? How do changes in landscapes affect our environment? How can we reduce the negative on our environment?

Visual Arts and Performing Arts

Ms Christine Trull will be continuing on with a performing arts focus. In class, we will be supporting the learning of the Arts with a visual arts focus. The children will have opportunities to experiment with different media and explore colour, texture, tone and the use of shapes and lines to create visual images. It will be exciting to see their pieces displayed at the Macgregor Art Show.

Housekeeping

Visual and Performing Arts, PE and Spanish

Our specialist Arts, PE and Spanish lessons will continue to be on Tuesday mornings.

Library

The year one library sessions are on Fridays. Please make sure your child has a **labelled library bag** that comes to school every Friday. At this time students will be able to borrow and return books as well as investigate and build their skills in the use of our school library. This term we will be further practising our ability to choose good fit books. To find a suitable book we follow the acronym IPICK. This stands for: -

I - I choose a book.

P - Purpose - Why do I want to read it?

I - Interest - Does it grab my attention?

C - Comprehend - Do I remember and understand what I am reading?

K - Know - Do I know most of the words?

Homework

Our homework in year 1 is to read every night. We like to see an even spread of your child reading to you, you reading to your child and reading a book together. It is very important that your child is reading every day. Time is set aside each day for the children to change their home reading books so remind your child to bring in their reading folder every day. Additionally, please continue to practise sight words with your child. If you need another copy of the list please let your child's teacher know so that we can send them home.

Toys at School

Toys at school can be a big distraction and can cause disagreements on the playground so we ask that your child does not bring any toys to school. Pokémon cards and other toys need to stay at home.

Hats

Macgregor Primary School is a SunSmart school and as such we all need to be wearing hats when outside. Please ensure your child has a labelled hat with them each day.

Lost Property

Please make sure your child's possessions are clearly labelled so that they can be returned to them. If your child does lose anything please check the lost property box near the uniform shop.

Fruit break

Each day, students will have fruit break during the morning session. This is an opportunity for the students to give their brains a boost and help them concentrate through until break 1. Students will need to bring fresh fruit or vegetables, ideally cut up, so that it is easy for them to manage and eat in approximately 10 minutes.

Finally, if you would like to meet with us to discuss your child's learning, please don't hesitate to make an appointment. We can be contacted via the front office or email.

Kind Regards,

Michelle Sochacki, Lyndsey Orchard, Renee Sochacki, Ilse Arellano and Tom Camilleri

michelle.sochacki@ed.act.edu.au

renee.sochacki@ed.act.edu.au

lyndsey.orchard@ed.act.edu.au

ilse.arellano@ed.act.edu.au

tom.camilleri@ed.act.edu.au