

Term 1 Overview 2018
Year 2

15 February 2018

Dear Families

Welcome to term 1, 2018! In this letter we will briefly explain some of the engaging programs that will be happening this term as well as inform you housekeeping matters to support you and your child's return to school for a new term.

English

In the beginning of the term we are working on procedural writing. In the second half of the term we will move onto writing to socialise including letter writing, invitations and post cards. There will be a focus on spelling with daily activities to consolidate and extend student's knowledge of spelling patterns. During independent writing, students will be encouraged to continue to build their independent writing stamina time along with their editing skills. This year we will have a strong focus on improving reading skills. For the first fifteen to twenty minutes of each day, students read in the classroom for enjoyment. Please come and join us if you have time. Later in the day, each class engages in targeted reading for learning, to further hone and extend our skills.

Mathematics

Our focus this term will be on addition, subtraction, place value and 2D shapes and 3D objects. Students will be involved in daily activities which will allow them to explore and practice these concepts, with a strong emphasis on the recognition of these shapes and objects and how they are used a real life context. Ongoing assessments will help us to establish our knowledge of what our students know and can do, which will in turn inform our teaching to ensure we are catering for individual needs. Students will be practising using a variety of strategies for addition and subtraction problems. They will be encouraged to practise using hundreds, tens and ones to show place value for numbers up to one thousand.

Science

In science this term we will be exploring the unit '**All mixed up**'. This inquiry unit provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of chemical science, how substances are mixed together to form something new, as well as looking at those that don't mix and why. During this term, students will be using scientific skills of questioning, predicting, exploring, explaining, observing, comparing and analysing.

Physical Education

In addition to weekly specialist PE lessons we will be focusing on **sportsmanship and teamwork**. Students will use cooperative strategies to successfully work in group situations when participating in physical activities.

Health

Our health focus will link closely with the Friendly Schools and Families and MindUp programs. We will continue to learn about our bodies, our emotions, how our brains work and how to be a great friend. This includes our growth mindsets both in class and out on the playground.

'Get 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.

General Information

- The day's program starts at 9:00am. If your child is late arriving to school, please ensure that they are signed in at the front office before proceeding to class. Also, just a friendly reminder that in the event of your child being absent please call the Front Office, email info@macgregorps.act.edu.au or use the Macgregor School App and your class teacher will be informed.
- Every day we have a fruit break around 10:00 am. We ask that children eat fresh fruit or vegetables only. Please remember to also include a water bottle. Students are able to keep their water bottles on their desks.
- Students are expected to wear a SunSmart hat at school each day. Our school policy states that students without a hat will be required to play under the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA).
- **We are an allergy aware school. We request that no nut products are brought into the premises. This is essential for the safety of a number of children across the school.**
- Library day is Wednesday, please remind students to bring any borrowed books into school to return.
- Reading Eggs is an internet based reading and early phonics program that can be accessed from any internet enabled device. Your child's log on details will be sent home shortly.
- An overview of specialist teachers program will be emailed with the newsletter.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Evelyn Robertson, Ilse Arellano, Melissah Cook and Sharee Hodge