

Principal: Jennifer Hall

Term One Overview, 2019

LSG

Dear Families,

Welcome to an exciting term 1. Below is an outline of our curriculum for this term. We have had a fabulous start to the learning year and are very impressed with the way all students have settled into their new classroom surroundings. We have begun with activities based on cooperation and 'getting to know you'. As parents you have valuable knowledge of your child's individual interests, strengths and needs. We look forward to establishing a productive partnership with you. We are currently developing an engaging and friendly learning culture. We have made class agreements, discussed expectations and begun term one routines. We look forward to a fantastic year with you all.

English

Writing

Students will explore the different types of sentences, including simple and complex. They will further explore that simple connections can be made between ideas by using a compound sentence. Classes will be provided with daily practice to develop sound and letter patterns, in particular 'blends.' As part of our extended writing focus, students will plan and create texts that include events and characters. They will be provided with the opportunity to expand or change key events and characters from existing literary texts.

Reading

LSG students will continue to participate in Daily 5 activities, these include: read to self, read to another, listen to reading, word work and work on writing. Students will focus on developing their comprehension skills through daily practice. They will use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning, expand content knowledge, analyse and evaluate texts.

Speaking and Listening

Students will be guided through the concept that successful cooperation with others depends on shared use of social conventions. This includes turn-taking patterns, and forms of address that vary according to the degree of formality in social situations.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra

LSG students have begun the year investigating place value. We are learning what place value is and how the value of the numeral changes depending on which column of a place value chart it falls in. Students will explore the relationship between standard notation, expanded notation, and written notation. This knowledge will guide student's learning of grouping, partitioning and rearranging collections, to facilitate more efficient counting. Our investigations into number will include the conditions required for a number to be odd or even as well as to identify odd and even numbers.

Measurement and Geometry

LSG students will explore the concepts of symmetry, line and shape through weekly art activities.

W@M Wednesdays

This term on a Wednesday after recess, we will participate in explicit social emotional learning (SEL) lessons known as W@M Wednesdays. These are not isolated lessons, and W@M principles and the BRICK values continue to be integrated into all aspects of our culture and learning. Positive rewards are ways we can recognise individuals and the learning behaviours that we want to see in our classrooms. They are compatible with the theory of Positive

Behaviour for Learning when they are used to teach the desired behaviour that we want to see. The W@M token is our agreed upon method of rewarding students who have shown the positive behaviours at Macgregor Primary School and will be recorded as part of the classroom W@M points tallies for the week. Students work towards earning W@M badges when they reach milestones for our four W@M Values - Respect, Responsible, Safe, Learners.

Inquiry Unit

This term the LSG classes will be exploring 'Forces and Motion'. Throughout this unit we will explore understandings of what forces are and how they change the way items move. Students will explore how a push or pull can also affect the shape of an object.

Throughout the year the LSG will learn about the many celebrations and commemorations in places around the world (for example, Chinese New Year in countries of the Asia region, Bastille Day in France, Independence Day in the USA), including those that are observed in Australia (for example, Christmas Day, Diwali, Easter, Hanukkah, the Moon Festival and Ramadan).

Design Technologies

As part of both our science inquiry and technology, the LSG will explore how technologies use forces to create movement in products. Students will design an object or vehicle that can carry a lego man from one end of a class table to the other.

Social Hygiene

With a focus this term on hygiene, what better place to begin than with "GERMS." The class had a wonderful time following Ms Sackl and Mrs Webster's steps after they played with germs (glitter), then spread them throughout the class through touch. The investigation prompted lots of discussion and the students instructed their teachers to 'go and wash her hands with soap and water'. During the term students will identify actions that promote health, safety and wellbeing. We will explore actions that help make the classroom a healthy, safe and active place.

The Arts

The arts enables children to express their creativity and individuality in many ways. In Visual Arts students will be encouraged to explore ideas using various art mediums. During art lessons students will explore perspective, shape and parallel lines, identifying symmetry in the environment around them.

ICT

Students in the LSG classes have access to several educational apps on the class iPads, there are also a limited number of Chromebooks available. They will engage in a range of learning technologies. We also encourage the children to use a whole school online reading program called Reading Eggs and mathematics program called Mathseeds. All classrooms at Macgregor have Interactive Whiteboards to enhance lessons and student understanding, along with consolidating ICT skills.

Specialists

This term Fabio Fabo (Mr Fab) will work with LSGPS and Paula Charles will work with LSGTW. The specialist teachers will provide a mix of art and cultural learning. Millie Butt will take each class twice a term for a gardening and cooking experience. If you would like your child to participate in the Spanish program please see their classroom teacher and it can be arranged for students to join the mainstream Spanish lessons for their year group.

Library

LSG students will continue to have a 45 minute library session every week. We welcome Ms Norma John who is our specialist teacher librarian for 2019. In these sessions, the students are introduced to a variety of different books, authors and genres, to develop their appreciation and love of reading. As we provide time for each child to become a regular borrower, please assist your child in remembering to bring their library bag to protect school library books during transition between school and home. The library is also open for your child to visit at lunch times.



Education and Training

MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PE/Fundamental Motor Skills

Both LSG classes will participate in PE/Fundamental Motor Skills lessons throughout the week. Students will be educated on what it means to be active learners and participate as part of a team.

Other Happenings

Throughout the year students from years 3 – 6 have the opportunity to attend school camps, notes will be sent home as required. We are hoping to organise swimming lessons with King Swim later in the year, notes for this will follow when details are secured.

Friendly Reminders;

- The weather is very variable in Canberra, please make sure your child has appropriate clothing, footwear, a sunsmart hat, and enough food and water for a whole day of learning
- Please label your child's possessions (hats, jumpers, stationery, lunch box, drink bottle etc.) so that we can return items we find as quickly as possible
- Learning starts at 9.00am. If your child is late arriving to school, please ensure that they are signed in at the front office. Also, just a friendly reminder that in the event of your child being absent, please send in a written note to your child's teacher, or send a notification through the Macgregor Primary School App.
- When the children arrive at school, we ask that they congregate in the senior COLA and the immediate surrounding areas. The junior and senior fixed equipment playgrounds are not able to be used before 9am
- We welcome assistance from parents and carers. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like to volunteer. We arrange for all our volunteers to complete a form at the front office. Regular volunteers (more than seven times a year or four times in any one month) apply for a Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. The process is easy and the front office staff are always available to help
- Please see the school calendar which is attached to the school newsletter for important dates. We also provide information on Facebook, See Saw and the school's website
- During our morning session we have a short fruit/vegetable break. Please send a small piece/container of fresh fruit or vegetables for your child to eat at this time
- Please remember we are an allergy aware school. Please do not pack nuts or nut products for your child
- We are encouraging the children to leave their bags at their assigned outdoor area until the bell and we seek your support to remind your child. Teachers are preparing lessons and attending meetings before 9am.

Kind regards,

Tracey Webster, Peta-Marie Sackl, Keiko Phillips, Jen Hartas, Brenda Frew, Manpreet Kaur, Kim McAuliffe.

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