

Term One Overview 2022

Year 1

Dear Families

Welcome to an exciting term 1. 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. Each of the classes have started the new year with activities based on cooperation and 'getting to know you', created class agreements, established routines and discussed expectations within a strong educational philosophy that places cultural integrity practices at the centre. All activities develop an engaging and friendly learning culture. 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. Below is an outline of our curriculum for this term.

English - Language: knowing about the English language

Literature: understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literary texts

Literacy: expanding the repertoire of English usage

During writing activities in term 1 we aim to build the student self-identities as writers. During text type lessons, we will explore the many ways we can create texts with the purpose of informing the audience. These can include but are not limited to recount texts, information reports, journal entries and step by step instructions. We will develop individual student goals using formative assessment and conferences with students throughout the term. Goals can include idea generation strategies, spelling strategies, correct letter formation, correct use of punctuation and grammar conventions. Alongside individual writing goals we will also explore these strategies and conventions during whole class learning activities. Throughout the term, students will have opportunities to individually create texts of their choosing to develop their own interests in writing strategies and genres.

Reading is a daily pleasure in year 1 and is integral to academic success and so we make it a priority to develop all students' confidence as readers. All classes have an extensive class library with a variety of books and texts. Every day, your child's teacher will read to the whole class using a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. These sessions aim to make students familiar with a text they may not have read previously or to enjoy a familiar text and to demonstrate positive reading behaviours such as expression and fluency. They're also a fun, rewarding shared experience in the classroom. Teachers will also lead small group and individual reading activities to develop individual student reading goals and strategies. Students will have opportunities to explore texts on their own and to develop their reading goals during independent reading activities.

Mathematics – Number, Algebra and Place Value

- Measurement, Shape, Geometry

We will have a strong focus on place value and an increasing understanding of our number system. Students will develop fluency with numbers, counting in sequences of twos, fives and tens, and recognise, order and represent numbers to 100. During the second half of the term students will be developing a range of strategies to solve addition problems such as using concrete materials, pictures, number lines and mental computation strategies. Place value will also be a focus concentrating primarily on ones, tens and hundreds. Students will be involved in daily activities which will allow them to explore and practise these concepts, by modelling and solving problems with a strong emphasis on real life contexts.

W@M [Wellbeing at Macgregor]

We will participate in explicit social emotional learning (SEL) lessons. These are not isolated lessons, and W@M principles and the BRICK values continue to be integrated into all aspects of our school culture and learning. Positive rewards are ways we can recognise individuals and the learning behaviours we want to see in our classrooms and on the playground. They are compatible with the theory of Positive Behaviour for Learning. 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 each week. Students work towards earning W@M new and exciting tangible rewards when they reach milestones for our four W@M Values - Respect, Responsible, Safe and Learners.

Inquiry Unit - History **- Science**

In History we will be exploring, 'The past, present and future.' Throughout this unit we explain how some aspects of daily life have changed over recent times while others have remained the same. The children will share and write stories about their past, present and future. We will also focus on special places and how to care for them.

In science, we will be exploring different materials through a learning unit titled, 'Spot the difference.' Throughout this unit we will explore understandings of how and why different materials can change when heated or frozen.

Physical Education

This term students will be working on the fundamental movement skills leaping, jumping and running. They will learn the correct form for different types of jumps, including tuck jumps, jump half turns and rocket jumps. Students will practise their techniques through various games and activities. At the end of the term students will begin building their running stamina to prepare them for Cross Country in term 2.

Health

Students will learn about how making healthy food choices strengthens their body as they categorise foods into the different food groups. They will look at healthy diets from around the world and share their own cultural knowledge with peers. Students will begin to identify healthy lifestyle activities and recognise the importance of staying physically active.

Spanish

This term students will learn how to count to ten in Spanish, the names of colours and a range of common usage nouns and verbs and how to respond to basic questions about their likes and preferences.

ICT

Students have access to ipads this year. They will engage in a range of learning technologies. All classrooms at Macgregor have Interactive Whiteboards to enhance lessons and student understanding, along with consolidating ICT skills.

Seesaw – Communication with families and Digital Portfolios

This year we will continue to use Seesaw to showcase your child's learning. In addition to real time updates, Macgregor Primary students will develop a digital portfolio of their learning throughout the year. Seesaw is an application available for electronic devices such as mobile phones and tablets. It is free to sign up and allows only you to access your child's profile. If you are having difficulties signing up or using the application, please see your child's teacher for assistance.



Friendly Reminders;

- The weather is very variable in Canberra, please make sure your child has appropriate clothing, footwear, a sunsmart hat, and enough food for a whole day of learning
- 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 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 and notify us if your child is absent on 6142 1600 or send an email to info@macgregorps.act.edu.au
- COVID friendly arrangements continue to be in place for term 1. This includes hand sanitiser stations, regular handwashing on arrival to class and after breaks
- After school pick up arrangements include Clode Place gate, Clode Crescent gate, Hirschfeld Crescent gate and Yerrabi Yuumma. Please communicate with your child as to where you will meet them for pick up at 3pm
- Please see the school calendar which is attached to the school newsletter for important dates. We also provide information on Facebook, Seesaw and the school's website
- Please remember we are an allergy aware school. Please do not pack nuts or nut products for your child

Kind Regards,

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