



# Grade 1/2 Newsletter

Term 1, 2023

## Welcome to 2023

It is with great pleasure that we welcome everyone back to school this term. The teachers are looking forward to getting to know their new classes and are excited to begin another fantastic year at Woodville.

Term 1 is *No Hat, No Play* in accordance with our *Sunsmart Policy*. Please ensure your child brings a school approved wide-brimmed hat to school each day which is clearly labelled with their name. Hats are available for purchase at our office for \$10.00.

### The School Day:

- 8.40am: The first bell rings. Students enter the classroom and organise their belongings (drink bottle on table, communication bag to teacher).
- 8.50am: The second bell rings. School officially starts. Teachers will mark the roll.
- 9 to 10.50am: Learning Block
- 10.50am: Students eat their first snack or lunch.
- 11am: Recess. Students play for 30 minutes.
- 11.30 to 1.20: Learning Block
- 1.20pm: Students eat lunch.
- 1.30pm: Lunchtime. Students play for 30 minutes.
- 2pm: Learning Block
- 3pm: Home time

### Parent/Carer Teacher Interviews

Bookings are now open for our first Parent/Carer Teacher Interviews of the year and will be held on Monday, 6 March. This year we are booking our interviews via the Compass platform. You can book a 10-minute session with your child's classroom teacher and any of your child's specialist teachers between the hours of 11:30am – 7:00pm. If you're unsure how to use Compass to make a booking, please refer to the attachment in your newsfeed.

### General Housekeeping

All children will use their communication bag for notes and Take Home Readers. Could you please ensure that your child brings their communication bag to school each day with their Take Home Reader and Reading Diary. It is important that parents/carers complete the Reading Diary for their child each night. Nightly reading is part of our homework policy and plays a crucial role in helping children reach learning milestones. Any misplaced communication bags can be purchased at the office for \$10.00.

Classroom teachers would be grateful that all school materials be brought to school as soon as possible, labelled with your child's name. It would also be much appreciated if your child could bring a box of tissues to school.

Kind regards from the Grade 1/2 Team,

1A – Mrs Melanie Turner  
1B – Mr Jonathan Marsay  
2A – Ms Trish Di Natale  
2B – Mr Tee Montague  
2C – Ms Gail McCredden

## **Reading**

Students will be learning about different decoding strategies such as one-to-one correspondence (pointing to each word as it is read), picture cues, skipping and chunking words and punctuation cues. In addition, the students will be revisiting and consolidating their understanding of the concepts of print, finding a Good Fit book and the three ways to read a book.

**Students are expected to read with assistance from an adult for approximately 10 minutes every night at home** to support our school reading program. Please contact the office if you require a copy of our Homework policy. Students can practise their Take Home Reader, Essential Words, or letter/sound recognition.

## **Writing**

This term, students will be learning to plan, draft and publish recounts and narratives. This will require that students develop characters and settings, often borrowed from other familiar texts, as well as create an imaginative problem and solution to their stories. The students will also begin to edit their writing and take ownership over their final published text.

Please encourage your child to **practise spelling** the Essential Words at home.

## **Numeracy**

Students will be practising a range of problem solving strategies and numeracy concepts. They will be focusing on place value, number patterns, shape, chance and data. Students will also look at counting, making patterns, counting forwards and backwards from different starting points and finding the difference between two collections.

## **SMARTS Goals**

Shortly, students will be receiving their first set of SMARTS goals for the year. They will receive one each for reading, writing and number. A copy of the goals will be kept in the blue communication bag so that teachers can update and monitor your child's progress regularly. *Please ensure you chat to your child about their special goals and practise these at home. Please keep the goals in your child's communication bag so we can continually revise the goals throughout the term and year.* If you have any questions please see your child's teacher.

## **Integrated Topic - Me**

Throughout Integrated Studies students will be learning about their physical and emotional health and their personal strengths. They will look at how interactions with friends and family members can be affected by their reactions, and how to foster positive relationships. The cohort will also continue to learn about Woodville's Values and the school rules and expectations.

# **Specialist Program**

## **Music**

The children in Grades One and Two will explore the musical composition, 'Peter and the Wolf' written by Sergei Prokofiev. They will be able to identify differences in elements and expressive qualities (eg: between fast/slow tempo, loud/soft dynamics, high/low pitch and long/short duration.) They will also explore the different instruments used to create this piece of music.

## **P.E**

This term, students will learn about the importance of developing and improving their fundamental motor skills to play a variety of sports. They will be playing AFL and soccer with a focus on Kicking. Students will learn the basic technique required to kick a stationary ball on the ground and from their hands. Learning to kick a stationary ball improves foot-eye coordination and aiming for a target whilst kicking the ball out of their hands improves balance and control.

## **Art**

The children will be looking at the art works of the Melbourne artist Mirka Mora. They will use paint and oil pastels to create artworks inspired by their investigations of a number of her art works. They will use drawing games to familiarise them with her style.

## **Japanese**

Students will revise and review their language knowledge to learn phrases and expressions such as greetings, self-introductions and other simple routines in Japanese. The children will use gestures and actions when they introduce themselves to understand the meaning of the words, expressions and cultural customs. They will explore Japanese words that are often used in English-speaking contexts such as sushi, karate, origami. Students will explore simple Japanese grammar structures for self-introduction sentences. They will learn Hiragana (Japanese script) by actions and using flashcards.

## **STEM**

During Term 1 the Grade One and Two students will be building an understanding of STEM learning and the processes involved. Students will explore the questions 'What is science? What is Technology? What is Engineering? and 'What is Maths?'. During the first four weeks learning will be supported by picture story books such as 'Ava Twist Scientist' and hands on explorations. Later on in the term students will be introduced to the BeeBots where they will learn computational thinking. Lots of fun to be had by all.