



Grade 1/2 Unit Newsletter

TERM 1

Meet the 1/2 Team

The Grade 1 Team:

1V: Olivia Villani

1T: June Thomson & Lisa Marino

1S: Soph Callaghan

The Grade 2 Team:

2H: Rebecca Hay

2F: Kellie Fazzino / Jenny Van Vliet

2L: Lauren Scalzo

Welcome to 2023!

Welcome to the 2023 school year. The students have all settled in well to their new classes and are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We hope that students enjoy each day and make the most of their time at Westbreen P.S. All the staff are here to ensure that the children learn to the best of their ability in a fun and supportive environment.

Education is a partnership between students, teachers, and parents. We are willing to discuss any issues that may arise.

Appointments can be arranged by calling the school office on 9306 9481 or via Xuno.

Students spend the first two weeks of school participating in the Start Up Program. This program is designed to promote a positive learning environment both in the classroom and outside.

Students have discussed the reasons for coming to school and what makes a good student. We have also reinforced the school values students right to learn and feel safe.

School Daily Timetable

9:00 - 9:50	Session 1
9:50 - 10:40	Session 2
10:40 - 11:30	Session 3
11:30 - 11:45	Lunch Eating
11:45 - 12:30	Lunch Break
12:30 - 1:20	Session 4
1:20 - 2:00	Session 5
2:00 - 2:10	Snack Eating
2:10 - 2:25	Recess Break
2:25 - 3:15	Session 6

Some Important Dates for Term 1:

Introducing My Child Conferences

Tuesday 21st February and Thursday 23rd February

Pupil Free Day

Monday 27th February

Labour Day Public Holiday (No School)

Monday 13th March

End of Term 1

Early Dismissal 2:15pm Thursday 6th April

Please keep an eye on the school newsletter for all other upcoming events.



LITERACY



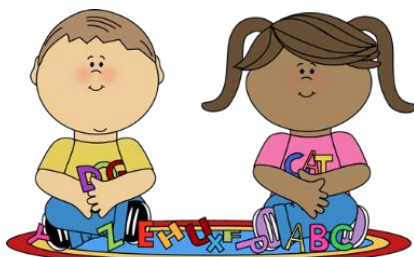
Grade One

Reading and Viewing:

Our home reading program has started and we appreciate the efforts of our parents in establishing positive routines to support reading at home. At school, students will be involved in regular reading through a variety of different experiences such as Guided, Independent, Shared and Modelled Reading. During these reading sessions, they will be engaged in various activities to develop their comprehension skills and reading fluency, as well as their enjoyment of reading. Within Guided Reading groups, children will have the opportunity to read, discuss and identify a variety of text types with a focus on strategies such as sounding out, reading on and back (re-reading), making predictions and using picture cues to assist with texts.

Writing: This semester the focus will be writing to recount and writing to describe. Children will write recounts about their personal experiences and feelings. Teachers will model writing strategies to support students in their writing, ensuring writing addresses the text structures of where, when, who, what and that sentence formalities such as capitals and full stops are consistently used. The correct use of the dotted thirds lined paper will also be modelled.

Spelling: The Grade One Spelling program will be aligned with the Little Learners Love Literacy program. Students will be encouraged to use a variety of spelling strategies including sounding out, breaking up into parts, using syllables, looking for familiar patterns or common sounds and finding little words in big words. These strategies will assist students to automatically recall and develop the ability to spell high frequency words.



Grade Two:

Reading and Viewing:

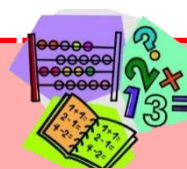
Our home reading program has started and we appreciate the efforts of our parents in establishing positive routines to support reading at home. We encourage all parents to read with their child to ensure that students practise reading on a daily basis for a minimum of 15 – 20 minutes every night.

In the classroom we will be setting reading routines. Reading will take place in a variety of forms such as guided, independent, shared and modelled. Some of the reading comprehension strategies explicitly taught in Semester 1 will be Getting Knowledge Ready, Predicting, and Questioning. Modelled examples, discussion and opportunities for students to practise these strategies will be embedded throughout all literacy sessions.

Writing: The writing focus for this semester will be writing to recount and to describe. Students will be given opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of this text type by producing work, reading and responding to texts that contain this structure and language associated with this genre of writing. The correct use of full stops, capital letters and question marks will also be a grammatical focus embedded throughout all writing tasks. Handwriting sessions will focus on the correct formation, size, slope and spacing of capital and lower-case letters on dotted thirds. This in turn will be used to encourage writing legibly.

Spelling: The Oxford Sight Words will be a focus throughout all areas of reading and spelling. Accurate and automatic recall of these words is essential for students as they form the basis for all reading and writing activities.

NUMERACY



Grade One:

Numeracy is an important aspect of the children's learning and will take place in classrooms every day. Within the strand of Number and Algebra we will be counting to 100, including by odds and evens, forwards and backwards, looking at one more than and one less than, as well as counting by 5s and 10s. We will count the days at school and there is a focus on building awareness of place value and bundling to tens. In measurement, we will look at sequencing the days of the week, months of the year and use a calendar to identify special dates.

Grade Two:

In Maths, within the strand of Number and Algebra we will be counting to numbers beyond 100, including odds and evens, and practise skip counting forwards and backwards from different starting points. We will continue with counting the days at school. We will expand our place value knowledge using two, three and four digit numbers. In measurement, we will look at sequencing the days of the week, months of the year, seasons and use a calendar to identify special dates.

INQUIRY

Let's Travel Back in Time

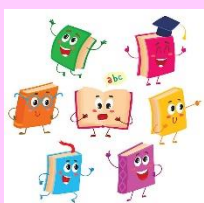
In our Inquiry topic, Let's Travel Back in Time students will explore the differences and similarities between their lives and that of their parents and grandparents' childhoods. They will learn how leisure activities, family traditions and types of technology and communication have changed over time. Students will be immersed in an olden day schooling experience to understand how school has changed over the years.



PE

This Term, students will be participating in a **Tennis Clinic!** The clinic will be held every **THURSDAY** commencing next week and will run for 4 weeks. Students will learn and develop hand eye coordination skills and understand the rules for Tennis.

LIBRARY



Students will attend weekly Library sessions. They need to have their library bags with them each week. Students can borrow up to two books and they must be returned by the next week's Library session. Lost or damaged books will need to be paid for. See timetable below for your child's library session:

Grade 1		Grade 2	
1V	Wednesday	2F	Friday
1S	Wednesday	2H	Monday
1T	Friday	2L	Thursday

SPECIALIST PROGRAM TIMETABLE

CLASS	Visual Arts <i>Christine Mahlis</i>	Performing Arts <i>Kylie Delacoe</i>	Science <i>Michael Blakey</i>	Italian <i>Signora Trish</i>	Social Skills <i>Karen Wileman</i>
1O	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
1S					
1T					

CLASS	Visual Arts <i>Christine Mahlis</i>	Performing Arts <i>Kylie Delacoe</i>	Science <i>Michael Blakey</i>	Italian <i>Signora Trish</i>	Social Skills <i>Karen Wileman</i>
2F	Tuesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday	Tuesday
2H					
2L					

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Water and Brain Food

Students should have a water bottle in class to keep them hydrated. Water bottles should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Students are encouraged to bring along fresh pieces of fruit or vegetables to eat in class.

Lost Property

To avoid children losing items such as jackets and hats, it is important to clearly label all of these items. If items of clothing are found around the school, they are placed with the lost property that is located outside Mr Kenny's office.



Home Reading Bags

Students need to bring their book bags to school every day. Home Readers will be changed over each day with students selecting one book to take home. Notes to go home will be placed in these bags. **Bags are available at the school office to purchase.**

Homework

Reminder that Homework / Home Learning activities are handed out on **Monday and must be returned by Friday.** As part of their Homework, the students in Grades 1 and 2 are expected to practise their spelling words in preparation for their weekly spelling test each Friday.



Sun Smart

Term One is a Sun Smart term. Wide brimmed sun hats are compulsory. **Please remember to label the hat with your child's name.** We also encourage the use of sunscreen and the wearing of sunglasses.