

{Grade==2==Newsletter}

Miss Bowles

Miss Kops

Miss Hickling

{=Literacy=}

This term in Writing we will be starting with a focus on narrative writing before moving into poetry and explanation writing later in the term. The use of VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers, Punctuation) will be integrated into our program, encouraging students to up-level their writing using more interesting language and sentence structure.

Reading workshops are underway in Grade 2 where we have started learning about how to pick 'Just Right' texts, how to read independently and with someone else. Reading workshops will continue throughout the term with focuses on monitoring our understanding, reading fluency and decoding.

{=Numeracy=}

This term in Mathematics we will have a focus on our number skills with weekly counting lessons, as well as learning more about place value, addition and subtraction.

Outside of Number, we will be exploring 2D shapes, days and months of the year and chance.

We will also be working on our problem solving skills using our whole school approach called CUBES. CUBES assists students to break down worded maths problems to simplify what the question is asking and guide them towards choosing a strategy to solve. The strategy we will work on this term is drawing a diagram.

Mathletics can be used at home to help revise concepts we have learnt at school. Student logins will be placed in take home reading logs (yellow books) in the coming weeks.

{Specialist==Timetable}

Grade 2s will attend their specialist classes on the following days. Grade 2 Library sessions are all on a Thursday.

	Mandarin	P.E.	Performing Arts	Visual Arts
2B	Wednesday	Friday	Thursday	Friday
2H	Friday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2K	Friday	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday



Term 1,

{upcoming==Events}

- Meet the Teacher—18th & 19th February
- School Photos—12th March
- Family Fun Night—21st March

{Class==Dojo=}

Class Dojo is a tool for tracking behaviour and communicating class information, photos and direct messaging between teacher and parents. It is a free app, or can be used online. Forms have been sent home with instructions to sign up and log into your child's class account. It is advised that you take advantage of this tool to keep in touch with what occurs in the classroom throughout the year. Please continue to utilise Compass or contact the office for absences, late arrivals or early pick-ups. Please be aware that teachers will respond to messages during work hours.



{Spelli=ng}

All Grade Two students participate in a phonics based spelling program that encourages a firm awareness of letter-sound knowledge.

Each morning ICT is incorporated as a visual and audio tool where students are encouraged to participate in sight word recognition and spelling through short video clips and songs. We then discuss our weekly focus phoneme, what it looks and sounds like within our weekly spelling words, followed by practise sessions of word lists.

Spelling word lists are sent home with homework to be practised and students peer test each other on a weekly basis. Please see the grid across for our schedule of focus phonemes.

Week 3	Short vowel a
Week 4	Long vowel a, split digraph a-e
Week 5	Short vowel i
Week 6	Long vowel I, split digraph i-e
Week 7	Short vowel o
Week 8	Long vowel o, split digraph o-e
Week 9	Sh blend
Week 10	Ch blend

{Parent==Helpers}

If you are available to assist in the classrooms please note that you are required to attend our Parent Helpers Course, (only if you haven't done this previously). The date for this will be announced soon. Please make sure your 'Working with Children' card details are at the office. If you require a WWC, you can apply online or visit your local Post Office. <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

Once this is finalised, please see the grade 2 teachers to assist in the classroom. This includes reading with children, working with a small group on targeted literacy skills and assisting with literacy sessions.

{Fruit==Snack}

Please send your child to school with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable for fruit snack that can be had in the classroom. Please also provide a water bottle for easy hydration.



{Computers}

Your child has received our ICT Acceptable Use Policy. They are required to read and discuss with you the necessary rules for the safe use of ICT when learning. Please explain or clarify anything with your child, then sign and return the form to your class teacher. Once received, students will then have permission to use school ICT equipment.

{unit===of===Inquiry}

Our first Unit of Inquiry for the year is '*People express their ideas and creativity through stories*' under the Transdisciplinary Theme of How We Express Ourselves.

We have just begun the unit and have started exploring different ways we can express creativity and how that might look, feel and sound like in relation to story telling.

We will continue to explore this unit guided by the following lines of inquiry:

- **Storytelling**
- **Story elements**
- **An expression of self and others**

There will be an up-coming excursion to Frankston Library, where we will have a guided tour, a chance to participate in Story Time, as well as time to browse the selection of fiction and non-fiction texts available. Please be on the lookout for this notice as it will be coming home soon.