

Grade 2 Newsletter



Miss Kops, Miss Goodridge, Miss Scott, Miss Jackson

Term 1, 2020

Literacy

This term in Writing we will be starting with a focus on narrative writing. 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 story elements, 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.



Upcoming Events

- Hockey Clinics - 12th February
- Meet the Teacher – 24th & 25th Feb
- School Photos – 17th March
- Family Fun Night – 19th March

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.

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.



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.

Specialist Timetable

Grade 2 specialist classes are as follows.

	Mandarin	P.E.	Performing Arts	Visual Arts
2J	Friday	Friday	Friday	Tuesday
2S	Tuesday	Friday	Friday	Friday
2K	Friday	Tuesday	Friday	Friday
2G	Friday	Friday	Tuesday	Friday

Spelling

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.

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.

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 begun the unit by exploring different ways we can express creativity and how that might look, feel and sound like in relation to storytelling.

We will continue to explore this unit looking into questions such as:

- **Why do people tell stories?**
- **What makes an effective story?**
- **How are stories from around the world similar or different to our own experiences?**

There will be an incursion from the Flying Bookworm Theatre Company. Notices will be sent home soon.

Week 2	Split digraph 'a-e'
Week 3	Split digraph i-e 'kite'
Week 5	Split digraph 'o-e' as in note
Week 6	Split digraph 'u-e' as in tune
Week 7	Long vowel 'ai' as in rain
Week 8	ay
Week 9	oa
Week 10	'ow' as in window

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.