**DATE** | **EVENT**
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26th Feb | Parent Teacher Exchange Day
10th March | Labour Day
20th Feb | Responsible Pet Education Program
21st March | Harmony Day

**ENGLISH**

Students will continue to practice good reading behaviours. They will continue to select “Just Right Books” and practice effective strategies to become better readers.

In Writing, students will focus on two writing genres: personal narratives, letter writing and lists.

The Writers Notebooks will consist of three sections: Writer’s Ideas List, Memorabilia, and Powerful Language. Students are encouraged to bring memorabilia to school (photos, brochures, magazine cuttings, articles, pictures etc.) These can be pasted into their Writer’s Notebook and used as visual prompts for writing ideas e.g. I have a picture of a rhinoceros because I saw one at Werribee Zoo and I want to learn more about them.

**MATHEMATICS**

The topics we will be working on this term are Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Length, Shapes, Statistics and Probability and Time (as related to the calendar). Activities you could do at home to support your child’s learning in maths include:

- Finding, reading and writing numbers in the environment. (house numbers, registration plates on cars) and identifying patterns in number.
- Putting objects in groups and bundles of 10.
- Solving simple everyday addition and subtraction problems.
- Measuring length of items in the house and identifying shapes in everyday life.

**INQUIRY**

Our first topic for this term is “Getting Along”. Our Major Topic Understanding is:

Our behaviours affect how we get along with others.

Our Focus Questions are:

- What are positive (acceptable) and negative (not acceptable) behaviors?
- How do we get along with others?
- Why is it important to get along with others?

The second Inquiry Unit in Term 1 is “Healthy Me” and will focus on our health and wellbeing.

The Major Topic Understanding is:

Looking after our health and how we feel is important to our wellbeing.

Our Focus Questions are:

- What actions affect our health and how we feel?
- How can we live a happy and healthy life?
- Why is our wellbeing important?

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:**

Parents will have an opportunity to meet their child’s teacher on Wednesday 26th February to exchange information that will assist their child in their learning at school and at home. Please arrange a time with the teacher if you are not able to attend the Parent /Teacher Exchange Day.

**1/2 Unit**

Class Teachers: Helen Myszka, Sarah Kam, Chantal Touma
Support Staff: Mary Day, Gemma Altolga
Visual Arts

During Term 1, the children in the Grade 1/2 unit will be exposed to the use of lines, shapes, patterns and colour in artwork. Viewing the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky will enhance their learning and they will gain inspiration to create their own artwork.

In the lead up to Harmony Day, the children will briefly learn about different cultures and complete activities, including the drawing of cultural body decorations, relating to the theme, ‘Everyone Belongs’.

The children will contribute to the Art in Public Places display at the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre. This year’s theme is ‘The Age of the Dinosaur’.

Could children please be supplied with an art smock to protect their clothing during art? An old oversized shirt, clearly labelled with their name would be fine.

Art smocks will not be stored in the art room and will become the responsibility of the child. Please become aware of the day that your child has art so that you may remind them to bring their art smock to school. Thank you.

Deb Morgan

Computers

During this term, the children will use the ‘eduSTAR’ toolbar to access different programs. They will be using the programs ‘KidPix4’ and ‘Kidspiration’ to produce pictures and visual representations of their learning, for their Inquiry Unit, ‘Getting Along / Healthy Me’.

The children will further develop their skills of using the paint, pencils, stamps, etc. during the creation of their work and will be writing sentences and linking pictures about their learning. They will be learning how to save and open their work from their class file.

Joanne Jackson

Physical Education

Term One will be an exciting time for the 1/2 students as they will be continuing to develop the fundamental skills of run, bounce, roll and trap. The students will begin to experiment with a wide variety of equipment to develop their skills, including hoops and small balls. Close attention will be placed on ball control with the introduction of modified sports. The students will explore movement through games that require them to run, gallop, skip and hop.

The students will continue to participate in the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP), which aims at developing the student’s ability to receive, interpret and respond successfully to sensory information.

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The students will further enhance our school ground and learning landscape, and the building of the “Vegetable Garden”. Both projects are exciting initiatives in the development of the school’s environmental and sustainability program. We look forward to the student participation components in these projects throughout the 2014 school year.

Cassie McCawley

Music and Performing Arts

Grade 1/2 students will continue to develop their musical ability and use percussion instruments and body percussion to play and create music, soundscapes and sound effects to stories.

Students will develop their performance skills within small groups and perform to one another in the classroom.

Students will also focus on singing, remembering and performing a variety of songs which will link to their inquiry topic of, ‘Getting Along’ and ‘Healthy Me’.

All students will use journals to record and reflect on their Music & Performing Arts lessons. These will also be used to write and keep any music, lyrics, practice schedules or ideas they may have in and out of class.

There will be opportunities for students to audition for the ANPS Junior choir.

Cassie McCawley

Sustainability

In grade P-2 the students will be introduced to the recycling programs at ANPS through the practical use of the paper, can/plastics, worm bins and waste bin.

The students are encouraged to be aware of the need to care for the environment in which we live in, through every day actions and behaviours. Monitors from each grade are responsible for the weekly collection of classroom recycling products.

Throughout the year the students will participate in an environmental education session in the worm room, and be involved in the hands on practical understanding of how their waste is recycled at ANPS using the schools worm farms/ paper and cans/plastic recycling programs.

In grade 3/4 the student are responsible for the management of the recycling bins in the eating areas of the schoolyard. Students are encouraged to show leadership with monitors from each grade being responsible for the weekly collection of classroom recycling products.

In grade 5/6 the students take an active and leading role in the organisation and management of the schools recycling program. Students are encouraged to be sustainable in their use of all their resources. Students are also responsible for the collection of water from the bucket that are placed under the taps in the playground, and used to water newly planted native plants in the school gardens.

This year we look forward to two major projects, the construction of our second “Garden wall” which will further enhance our school ground and learning landscape, and the building of the “Vegetable Garden”. Both projects are exciting initiatives in the development of the school’s environmental and sustainability program. We look forward to the student participation components in these projects throughout the 2014 school year.

Wal Raghdo