

Parramatta North Public School

Stage Two Newsletter Term Four, 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Parramatta North Public School. We look forward to a productive term of learning together. We have a busy term ahead with many exciting events and opportunities.

Behaviour and Work Ethic

It is expected that students will develop sound work practices, completing set tasks to the best of their ability in the classroom and at home. School equipment is to be brought to school daily and kept in good working order, **replacement glue sticks and pencils may be required**. Students are expected to be safe and respectful learners. We expect students in primary classes to now take more responsibility for their own learning.

Computer Use

All students will continue using their XO's and infinities across all subject areas. They will continue to use iPads and computers to research in the library.

Homework


Homework grids are sent home each week. It provides a combination of spelling activities, revision tasks to complement classwork, reading and life skills. It should take around 20 - 30 minutes to complete. The children have been told that if they have problems or concerns with the work, they can discuss them with their teacher. Homework is to be brought to school on Fridays. If students are unable to complete homework due to other commitments, we would appreciate a brief note explaining the reason. Parent support with the checking and follow-up of homework, as well as encouragement and praise for a job well done, help to make the homework process more meaningful and enjoyable for the child.

Key Learning Areas

1) ENGLISH

Students in Stage 2 will be working on gaining a deeper level of understanding and greater fluency when reading more complex texts. We will be including novels, readers, poetry and non-fiction texts in our reading program this term. Opportunities to improve reading skills through guided, shared and independent activities operate continuously in the classroom, as reading is an integral part of learning in all other KLA's. Students need to bring their library bag each

MONDAY for borrowing.



This term in writing, we will be focussing on writing to inform and entertain through information reports, descriptions and narratives. By increasing skills, knowledge and understanding of English through the explicit and systematic teaching of writing, grammar, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling, students' written texts should improve.

In Year 3 students use a lead pencil for writing and gradually acquire the skills of Foundation Cursive writing (running writing). In Year 4 students write in Foundation Cursive continually and are working towards the acquisition of their Pen Licence.

Spelling list words are grouped in order of difficulty. Students are placed in ability groups according to performance in recent assessments - as improvement occurs, progression to the next level may occur. Focus words and Topic Lists support the learning process.

To ensure that students reach their potential in oral communication, many and varied opportunities to develop skills will be offered. Tasks range from group to individual responses. Some tasks will require preparation at home.

2) MATHEMATICS

Number, Patterns & Algebra, Data, Space & Geometry, Measurement

Mathematics is divided into 5 strands with a strong emphasis on working mathematically. We will continue using 'A Learning Place, A Teaching Place'.

Studies have shown that by working in mixed ability groups, students learn from each other. Emphasis is given to practical number activities as required by the syllabus. Students will have opportunities to learn space & geometry and measurement concepts by using equipment and applying known strategies to solve problems. All lessons incorporate a working mathematically component. Opportunities will be provided for gifted students to extend their knowledge/skill base by completion of more complex tasks independently or in groups. Focus areas include: problem solving, time, multiplication and division, fractions and decimals, patterns and algebra, position, money and 2D space.

3) HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY

This term, students will continue with the unit – 'First Contacts', where they will be exposed to the history and settlement of Australia. This will be completed by Miss Pham, our RFF teacher. They will attend an excursion to Old Government House and Experiment Farm in Week 5.

4) SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

Students will participate in the science unit – "Heating Up". They will look at how heat is produced and transferred between objects. They will investigate how different materials conduct heat.

5) CREATIVE ARTS

Visual Art, Drama, Dance and Music

Students participate in a range of activities that are integrated into key components of other KLAs. This term, students will focus on dance. Students will participate in the Creative and Performing Arts night. CAPA artworks will be available to purchase on the night.

6) PDHPE

Personal Development sessions on Anti-bullying and Child Protection will be undertaken this term. They will also participate in Student Support.

Crunch n Sip is carried out every day in the morning session. Students are encouraged to bring a small amount of FRESH fruit or vegetables, cut up ready to eat as well as water to drink.

Fitness Sessions, where students focus on raising their heart rate through fundamental movement skills, are carried out each week. This term, students will also participate in a gymnastics program. On Friday mornings, students will undertake either Home Sport activities or if selected for a team, PSSA (Public Schools Sports Association). PSSA teams were selected in Term One and include cricket and t-ball / softball.

ABSENCE NOTES

Please provide a signed note for all absences. You can also use the school app to send notification of your child being absent from school. **If arriving late or leaving early, a parent must sign their child in at the office.**

MEDICATION

Please hand in any medication to the office. This will be administered by office staff.

UNIFORM

Please ensure your child wears the full uniform each day to school. Students need to wear their blue PNPS school hat every day. As the weather is always changing, please leave a jumper and raincoat in your child's school bag. **All items of clothing MUST be labelled with your child's name.** School sunglasses can be worn all year.

Boys – all year school hat, grey or blue school polo shirt, grey shorts or long pants, grey socks and black shoes. Blue school jumper, when needed.

Girls - school hat, blue school polo shirt and blue skirt or long pants OR checked school dress, white socks and black shoes. Blue school jumper, when needed.

Sport – school hat, gold school polo shirt, blue shorts, skirt or track pants, white socks and sports shoes. Blue school jumper or stage three senior jacket

FOOD AT SCHOOL – BEING NUT AWARE

It is essential for the safety of all our students that nuts and nut products are not brought to school for recess or lunch. This includes all nuts as well as muesli bars and spreads like Nutella.

BIRTHDAYS

If students wish to celebrate their birthdays at school, we request cupcakes be sent in. No whole cakes, lolly/gift bags will be accepted.

SUPPORT STAFF

Our students are supported by dedicated and enthusiastic support teachers including Mrs Bax, Ms Heron & Miss Kinchington (EAL/D), Miss Pham (RFF), Mrs Eltakchi (Learning Support), Mrs Wilson & Mr Rowland (Library), Mrs Arora (Hindi) and Mrs Malek (Farsi).

COMMUNICATION

The school website (<http://www.parramattn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>) is used to communicate with the community. It hosts copies of the school newsletter, notes, and other important news/ information. Newsletters are sent home fortnightly. Please check your child's bag regularly for any notes in their blue tote bag. We would encourage you to download the school app from your app store on your mobile device.

IMPORTANT DATES

Week 2: CAPA Night (23rd October)

Week 5: Stage 2 Excursion (11th or 12th November)

Week 7: Parent Helper Thank You Morning Tea (27th November)

Week 9: Presentation Day (9th December) Reports Home (11th December)

Week 10: Last Day for Students (18th December)

Should you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of your child's schooling please contact the office on 9630-1768 and make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher. A note in writing of any particular concerns you feel we should be aware of is also a great method of communication.

Regards,

Miss Dodd, Mr Jones, Mrs Postlethwaite and Mr Wylie
Stage Two Teachers

Mr Wheatley & Miss Young
3-6 Assistant Principals

Mrs Methven
Principal

