

Parramatta North Public School

Stage Two Newsletter Term One, 2020

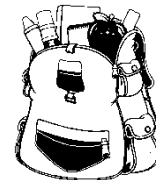


Dear Parents/Carers,

We are looking forward to teaching your child this year. Making your child's school experience a positive one, where learning is meaningful, stimulating and enjoyable, is our goal. We look forward to your support throughout the year so that together we may provide your child with a happy and successful year at school.

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. Students are expected to be **safe and respectful learners**. Respect for the rights of others, appropriate behaviour and good manners are required from all students. Adherence to classroom expectations creates a settled, safe and positive working environment, which benefits everyone. We expect students in primary classes to now take more responsibility for their own learning.



Homework

Homework grids are sent home each week. They provide a combination of spelling activities, revision tasks to complement classwork, reading and life skills. Homework grids should take around 20 - 30 minutes to complete. The students 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. This sends the message to students that homework is valued by school and home. Parental support with the checking and follow-up of homework, as well as encouragement and praise for a job well done, helps to make the homework process more meaningful and enjoyable for the student. We believe that not only does completion of homework revise and consolidate concepts taught but it also helps develop self-discipline and time-management skills.

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, shorter readers, The School Magazine, poetry and non-fiction texts in our reading program this year. Opportunities to improve reading skills through guided, shared and independent reading activities operate continuously in the classroom, as reading is an integral part of learning in all other KLAs. This year, students will once again need to purchase their individual subscription to The School Magazine and will receive 10 editions throughout the year.



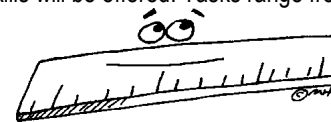
In Year 3 students use a lead pencil for writing and gradually acquire the skills of Foundation Cursive writing (running writing). In Year 4 students write in Foundation Cursive continually and are working towards the acquisition of their Pen Licence.

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 occurs. Word building 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

Mathematics is divided into five strands with a strong emphasis on working mathematically. Mathematics is taught in class groups and we will continue using 'A Learning Place, A Teaching Place' program. 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 measurement and geometry 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.



3) HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

HSIE will be taught this term with the topic 'Community and Remembrance' from the history syllabus. Opportunities to reflect on various sources of information and the need to have historical artefacts will be taught. Students will also look at the history of Parramatta and the effects of change.

4) SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

This term, lessons will be on Earth, Moon and Sun. Students will learn how the rotation of the Earth on its axis causes regular changes, including night and day and the pattern of the seasons. Developing their working scientifically skills, students will question, research, investigate and communicate their understanding of Earth and space sciences.

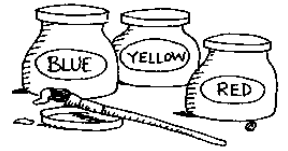
5) PDHPE

Personal Development sessions will look at PBL lessons ensuring all students are aware of the school expectations as well as our core values and sun safety. 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, which are cut up and ready to eat and water to drink.

Fitness Sessions, where students focus on developing their athletic skills, are carried out in class each week. On Friday mornings, students will undertake either Home Sport activities or if selected for a team, PSSA (Public Schools Sports Association) cricket, newcombe ball or t-ball.

6) CREATIVE ARTS

Students in Stage 2 will focus on visual arts and drama. We will continue to participate in clubs once a week.



SCRIPTURE

Scripture is held on Wednesdays at 9.30am. Your child will attend the Scripture class nominated on their enrolment form unless we are notified of a change in writing.

ABSENCE NOTES

Please provide a note for all absences, in advance where possible. If arriving late or leaving early, a **parent must sign their child in at the office.**

BIRTHDAYS

If you would like to send a birthday treat for your child, please send nut-free cupcakes or a pre-cut cake. **No other items (lolly bags etc) will be accepted.**

SUPPORT STAFF

Stage Two are fortunate to have a great support team working closely with the class teachers including: Mrs Malek (Farsi), Mrs Arora (Hindi) Mrs Bax and Ms Heron (EAL/D), Mrs Wylie & Miss Cheung (RFF), Mrs Wilson (Library) and Mrs Eltakchi (Learning Support) assisting with students in the classroom.

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 skort 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.

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, diary dates and other important news and information.

Newsletters are sent home fortnightly via email. Please check your child's bag regularly for notes from the school – these will be in their blue notes home folder. Download the school app for mobile devices for real time updates too! You can 'like' us on Facebook.

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 peanut butter or Nutella.

IMPORTANT DATES

Please refer to the term planner which will be sent home via the newsletter.



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.

Regards,
Stage Two Teachers

Miss Dodd, Mr Jones, Mrs Postlethwaite, Miss Pham & Mr Wylie

Stage Two Assistant Principal (Rel)
Ms Lance

Principal (Rel)
Miss Young

Thanks!

