

Parramatta North Public School

Stage Two Newsletter

Term One, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a year full of exciting opportunities for both parents and students within our school community. Our aim is to develop the skills and personal qualities of all our students through engaging learning experiences that are meaningful, stimulating and enjoyable. We look forward to your ongoing support so 2023 is a successful year for everyone at Parramatta North Public School.

CURRENT SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Pick Up and Drop off Procedures: School Hours 8:30am – 3:00pm

MORNING DROP OFF

From 8:30am, all students may enter through GATES 2, 3 and 5 ONLY. Students move directly to the court. Staff are on duty on the court from 8.30am. At 8.45am, K-2 students move to the COLA area. 3-6 students remain on the court.

AFTERNOON PICK UP

Gates 2, 3 and 5 will be opened at 2.50 pm.

Parents of students in years 1 - 6 enter the school via Gates 2 and 3. Parents of kindergarten students enter the school via Gate 5. To assist with student movement, parents are asked to remain in waiting areas.

2.58pm All students from year 1 - 6 will assemble on the court. Kindergarten students and siblings will assemble under the COLA.

3pm Parents collect their students from the class teacher then move off site.

3pm All students who walk home by themselves will be dismissed from GATE 3 ONLY.

OUR KEY LEARNING AREAS

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.

This term in writing, we will be focussing on writing to persuade and entertain. By increasing skills, knowledge and understanding of English through the explicit and systematic teaching of writing skills, grammar, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling, students' written texts should improve. As students' understanding of spelling rules improve, they will be exposed to more complex spelling lists. 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 are working towards the acquisition of their Pen Licence – the teacher will let you know when to bring a pen.

MATHEMATICS *Number & Algebra, Measurement & Space and Statistics & Probability*

Mathematics is divided into three areas with a focus on working mathematically across all areas. Students will learn and use mathematical language to explain the processes they are completing. Our focus this term will be understanding place value, addition and subtraction, representing data, patterns, two-dimensional shapes as well as measuring using a variety of informal units.

HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

In Semester One, our focus will be on Geography. The students will be undertaking the topic 'The Earth's Environment'. Throughout the unit students will explore the climate, natural vegetation and native animals of places in Australia and China. They develop an understanding of the diversity of living things, how they affect each other, and the interdependence of living things and the environment.

SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

In this unit, students will inquire into the Earth's relationship with the Sun and how the Sun, Earth and Moon interact. They will learn that the rotation of the Earth on its axis causes regular changes, including night and day and the pattern of the seasons.

PDHPE (Personal Development, Health and Physical Education)

Crunch 'n' Sip is an essential DAILY aspect of our morning session. Students are encouraged to bring a small container of FRESH, RAW fruit or vegetables, and water to drink. Students will be completing a unit of work called 'How can I keep myself and others safe?'. **All students will participate in sport on FRIDAY so their sports uniform is to be worn on this day.** They will be developing skills that are required in different athletic and sporting environments.

CREATIVE ARTS

Visual Art, Drama, Dance and Music

Students in Stage 2 will be exposed to all strands of Creative Arts throughout the term. In Term One there is a focus on drama skills. Students will participate in clubs where they will explore various aspects of creative arts. They can also audition for performance groups - choir, dance and drumming.

BEHAVIOUR

All students are expected to follow our three school expectations – Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner, as this creates a settled, safe and positive working environment, which benefits everyone. Behaviour expectations are explained, modelled and revised regularly. Students must display appropriate behaviour and respectful manners to all members of the staff, their peers and the wider school community. Being organised is part of being a learner so personal equipment (books and requirements) must be labelled, in good working order and at school every day.

SUPPORT STAFF

Our students are supported by dedicated and enthusiastic support teachers including Mrs Wilson (Library), Ms Heron, (EAL/D), Mrs Eitakchi (Learning Support) and Mr Jones and Miss Popal (RFF/Science).

HOMEWORK

Homework allows for the revision and consolidation of concepts taught but it also helps develop self-discipline and time-management skills. Homework is posted on Google Classroom every Monday. It should take around 20 - 30 minutes to complete. If students have problems or concerns with the task, they can discuss it with their teacher. Homework is to be submitted online by Friday. A hard copy may be provided if students are unable to access the internet.

ABSENCE NOTES

All students will continue to 'Strive for 95' because the greater the attendance, the greater the achievement! It is a Department requirement that a note explaining an absence is provided to the teacher when a student returns to school. Please ensure these notes are signed and dated. Notes can be returned via the school app. If students are arriving late or leaving early, a parent must sign them in or out at the office.

MEDICATION

Any medication that has to be taken during school hours **MUST** be handed in at the office, by a parent. A note must be completed by a parent or carer before any medication will be administered.

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.**

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

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

Sport – school hat, gold school polo shirt, blue shorts, skirt or track pants, blue school jumper/jacket, white socks and sports shoes. School sunglasses can be worn all year.

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 and Nutella.

BIRTHDAYS

At this time, we are unable to accommodate any birthday food, treats or gifts for the class. Please do not send any items to share to school. We thank you for your support in this matter.

COMMUNICATION

Our newsletter is distributed via email on Monday. It is published fortnightly and contains important dates as well as student achievements. Our school website (www.parramattn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au) contains valuable information about school events, notes and excellent links to other resources. If your contact details (*address & telephone numbers*) change, it is essential that you inform the Office staff and update your details. Download the school app to receive up to date information.

SCRIPTURE

Scripture will begin in the second half of term 1. Please ensure that you have notified the school office of your religious preference for your child.

MONEY

Throughout the term, students will be asked to pay for specific events. **All notes and money MUST be in an envelope and handed to the class teacher. Payments can also be made online via the school website. Online payments must have the receipt number recorded on the permission note. No money will be accepted in the afternoon.**

Important Dates

All events are displayed on the calendar on the school website and on the term planner sent home each term.

Stage Two classes are ***dismissed from the court area***. We request that all parents wait outside in the playground each afternoon, so that all students may be safely dismissed.

Due to safety and duty of care, teachers are unable to discuss student concerns when they are collecting or dismissing their class. 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,
Mr Leigh Wylie, Mrs Bradley & Miss Dodd
Stage Two Teachers

Mr Wheatley
Assistant Principal

Mrs Methven
Principal

