

# LEVEL 1/2 NEWS - TERM 1

Welcome back! After a weird and wacky 2020. We are really excited about beginning the school year and getting to know a new group of students.

Welcome to our new families and staff, including Miss Olivia Akaruru and welcome back Miss Emily Winters and Miss Meagan Griffiths to join our teaching staff in level 1/2. The teaching staff in Level 1/2 this year are:

## **1/2A – Miss Rachel Mackay**

rachel.mackay@education.vic.gov.au

## **1/2B – Mr Grant Morris (Team Leader) & Miss Sarah Polmear**

grant.morris@education.vic.gov.au

sarah.polmear@education.vic.gov.au

## **1/2C – Miss Olivia Akaruru**

olivia.akaruru@education.vic.gov.au

## **1/2D – Mrs Pauline Paine**

pauline.paine@education.vic.gov.au

## **1/2E – Miss Emily Winters & Miss Meagan Griffiths**

emily.winters@education.vic.gov.au

meagan.griffiths@education.vic.gov.au

Support Staff: Ally (ES Support), Melissa (ES Support), Mrs Chaplin (ES Support) and Lisa (ES Support).

Lynley Forrester & Meagan Griffiths (Literacy and Numeracy Support)

Due to Covid in 2020 we are aware that many parents feel their child may need additional support in Literacy and Numeracy. If you have any concerns about your child's development, please contact your child's teacher. We will be conducting a variety of support sessions throughout the year focussing on any gaps within your child's learning.

## **CLASSROOM HELPERS**

We LOVE parent and grandparent helpers!!! We rely on this help to run home reading and 'Magic Words' practise, as well as other activities that require extra supervision and assistance in the classroom. We will put schedules up outside each classroom for you to fill in your availability or you can email your child's teacher with your availability. Please ensure you have a current Working With Children Check and give these details to the school office.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Week Beginning 8th February** Getting to Know You Interviews

**Monday 8th March** – NO SCHOOL  
Labour Day

**Wednesday 24th March** School Photos

**Tuesday 30th March** – Dream Big  
Celebration

**Thursday 1st April** Term 1 ends at  
2:30pm

**Monday 19th April** Term 2 begins

Please work **with** your child to add these dates to their School Diary.

## **HATS**

Until the end of April, all students are required to wear a wide brimmed hat during outside times at school, including for P.E. As TPS has a 'no hat, no play' policy students will be asked to sit under cover at the canteen if they do not have a hat.

# CURRICULUM NEWS

## LITERACY

During Term 1, we will work on revising our daily reading routine, which includes Shared Reading, Independent Reading, Guided Reading and activities based on student's needs. We will also revise the school-wide comprehension strategies.

VCOP will continue throughout the year across the school, with a specific focus on: Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation. 'Big Write' dates will be advertised in the school newsletter. Keep an eye out for the 'Big Write' topic and prompt sheets in your child's book bag later this term. It is imperative that you support your child through this process, by helping them to brainstorm writing ideas before a 'Big Write'.

## MATHS

A major focus in Term 1 will be counting and place value. This knowledge forms the foundation for most other work in Maths. Please support your child's learning by exposing them to real life maths opportunities, such as handing over money at a shop, playing board games and card games, reading the time (including analogue time), using a calendar and the school diary, daily counting practise and measuring.

## INQUIRY

Term 1 will see all students from Years 1 to 6 participating in 'Dream Big'. This is an opportunity for students to try something they have never done before and experience challenges and mistakes in a safe and supported way. Students work in multi-age groups with school staff and parent/grandparent helpers to master a new skill or find out more about a topic of interest. Students will showcase their work and skills at the Dream Big Celebration Day on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Sessions begin Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## **WATER AND BRAINFOOD**

The children are able to have water (no other drinks) and healthy snacks in the classroom to ease hunger and to maintain focus. It is important that snacks are fruits or vegetables only (dried or fresh) and **cut into bite sized pieces**. This will ensure they can continue to work while having a fruit snack, so please don't pack messy fruits as part of brainfood. Water bottles will remain on tables all day.

## **MORNING ROUTINE**

Each morning, the doors will open at 8:50am for students to prepare for their day. This will include unpacking bags, getting brain food and drink bottles ready among other things. Please be aware that by the time the bell rings at 9:00am, students are expected to be on the floor, ready to start the day, not still unpacking and saying goodbye. Please support your child's independence by having them carry, hang and unpack their own bag.

## **LIBRARY**

Each week, students visit the school library to browse and borrow books. It is an important process for students to be involved in, as it promotes responsibility and fosters a love of reading for enjoyment! Please encourage your child to borrow books, speak to them about the books they borrow and even better, share some time reading the books together. All classes will visit the library on MONDAY'S

## **PLEASE RETURN**

Students will need to return 'WOW' books, Art smocks, headphones, Library bags and book bags by Week 2. Also, please ensure your child brings their diary to school each day.