Once children learn how to learn nothing is going to narrow their mind. The essence of teaching is to make learning contagious, to have one idea spark another. Marva Collins

Dear Parents,

We hope that your child had a safe and happy holiday. We are looking forward to another engaging and exciting term of learning in Years 1 and 2.

Semester 1 Reports

Reports were sent home with individual children on the last Wednesday of Term 2. A portfolio of work samples was sent alongside the reports for parents to look through and return to school If you are concerned about any aspect of your child’s report please make an appointment to speak to their teacher as soon as is convenient.

Teachers will be happy to discuss any aspect of your child’s learning with you and to help you address any concerns.

Class Timetables

1B will be involved in the following programs this term:
Library Borrowing - Thursday
P.E - Tuesday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Thursday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

1H will be involved in the following programs this term:
Library Borrowing - Friday
P.E - Friday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Thursday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

2/1S will be involved in the following programs this term:
Library Borrowing - Monday
P.E - Tuesday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Tuesday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

2J will be involved in the following programs this term:
Library Borrowing - Monday
P.E - Thursday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Thursday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

2M will be involved in the following programs this term:
Library Borrowing - Tuesday
P.E - Tuesday
K-2 Sport - Thursday
Music - Thursday
K-2 Choir – Wednesday

Home Learning

Our home learning program will begin in Week 2 and conclude in Week 9. Students will continue to focus on home reading, games-based Mathematics, Unit of Inquiry tasks and speaking and listening topics.

Last term a significant amount of new books were purchased to update our home reading scheme. If you are able to help with stamping school logos, labelling book levels or book covering please see Ms Appave in Week 2. All help is appreciated and the children are eager to bring the new literature home.

Term 3 Teaching Overview

Library

During Term 3 in the library, students will be reading and engaging in fictional stories that involve journeys. All students will also be read and shown the 2015 selection of winning stories from the Children’s Book Council of Australia. Students will be encouraged to borrow every week, especially books from the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Unit of Inquiry – Stepping into our Environment

This unit is based on a conceptual planning model and aims to meet all learner needs from high achieving students to those requiring some extra assistance with their learning or English language development. The unit has a science focus and provides opportunities for students to explore why places are important to people, and the ways in which the value of places is demonstrated. This unit will also aim to enhance student knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures. Through engaging in a project-based unit built around an excursion to the Muogamarra Nature Reserve, Years 1 and 2 will answer the following inquiry questions:
Why are places important to me?
Why are places important to other people?
How are places designed to suit the needs of the people who use it?
How can I design a place to suit the needs of a specific group of people?

**English— Stepping into Wonderland**

Students will explore the concepts of setting & atmosphere by examining texts that depict journeys. Beginning with a focus on quality picture books by author Anthony Browne, students will begin to learn how and why composers use language, structure and visual elements to create particular settings and atmospheres. Students will then begin to explore more fantastical journeys such as those depicted in Alice in Wonderland, expanding their knowledge of our core concepts. The ‘Stepping into Wonderland’ unit will conclude with students adopting the role of composer, working collaboratively to apply their knowledge of setting and atmosphere to produce digital stories using iPads. This unit will be enhanced by a complimentary Visual Arts unit looking at the works of Escher and Dali.

Students will continue to develop their core reading and writing skills in differentiated literacy groups. In speaking and listening, there will be a focus on formal presentation skills to prepare our students for the K-2 Public Speaking competition.

**Mathematics**

Two conceptual Mathematics programs will be taught this term. The first unit is focused on visualising and representing mathematical problems. Students will continue to develop their understanding of place value and all four operations by employing a variety of mental strategies and supporting their learning with tools such as number lines, arrays and MAB materials. The second unit asks Stage 1 students to think about multiple ways of addressing mathematical problems. Through an exploration of problem solving, estimation and money, students will be challenged to answer questions in both efficient and creative ways.

**PDHPE**

We will be completing our Child Protection program in PDHPE this term. Child protection lessons are mandatory. Year 1 students will focus on issues of power in relationships and develop an understanding of their own personal networks. Year 2 students will focus on protective strategies that enhance their wellbeing and safety in a variety of situations. Some material in the Child Protection program can be sensitive. More information will be handed out for parents before the program begins.

This term, Year 2 students will be participating in the School Swimming and Water Safety Program. Students will be attending daily lessons at Lindfield Public School’s swimming pool in Weeks 9 and 10. More information will be distributed to parents in the coming weeks.

**Parent Helpers**

Thank you to all of the parents who support us in the classroom. Your help is greatly appreciated and we value your partnership, your time and commitment to our school.

**Important Dates**

- K-2 Athletics Carnival – Thurs 23 July
- Education Week Open Day— Tues 28 July
- Muogamarra Nature Reserve Excursion – Wed 29 July and Thurs 30 July
- KPS Cyber Smart Week – Week 5
- School Photos – 17 and 18 August
- K-2 Public Speaking Competition – Week 8
- Fathers’ Day Breakfast – 4 September
- Year 2 Swimming and Water Safety Program – Mon 7 September Fri 18 September

We look forward to another term filled with enriching and exciting learning experiences.

Katie Boyle
1B Class Teacher
Jeremy Hart
1H Class Teacher
Sandra Hicks
2/1S Class Teacher
Julie Renwick & Jennifer MacKay
2J Class Teachers
Nicole Mooney
2M Class Teacher