English

Reading - All children have been placed in flexible, focused Guided Reading groups, working at least once a week in a small instructional group with their teacher on specific skills related to their reading development. When not participating in instruction with their teacher, they will be involved in consolidation and extension tasks to enhance their reading progress. Reading tasks are supervised by teachers and will often be supported by our excellent, trained Parent Helpers. During Term 1, the children will be encouraged to use appropriate, learned strategies to gain and maintain text meaning. Emphasis will be placed on making oral reading sound interesting by being well phrased. The children will also be encouraged to read for pleasure and share their books with their peers. Reading tasks may include such things as: Retells, Story Maps, Character Profiles and Readers Theatre. The literature component of the program will include stories, poems, songs and picture books often related to our Integrated Inquiry Unit topic.

Writing - Small, flexible and focused Teaching and Task Groups will be a feature of daily Written Language activities. This term, emphasis will be placed on the following text types: recount, narrative, retell, list making, caption recording and procedural text structure. Some specific Thinking Tools with a writing focus will be incorporated into writing sessions, for example, Mind Maps, P.M.I. Charts, Fact Files, Now, Before and After summaries and Venn Diagrams.

Spelling - Level 2 children will focus on the one and two hundred Most Used Words Lists, the review of all common single sounds including initial vowel options and the sound blends of sh, ch, th, and ck. The long and short vowel sounds within words will be reviewed and consolidated.

Handwriting - Weekly instruction lessons will include specific aspects of correct letter formation of all the lower case letters and word spacing and line usage will be a feature of the term’s Handwriting tasks.

Speaking and Listening - Activities related to listening carefully for instructions and to directions, being able to restate them clearly to others, speaking with appropriate volume for the situation, employing supportive body language to enhance the message and looking at the speaker and/or the audience will be important features of the speaking and listening part of the Literacy program this term. Children will regularly participate in plays and simple drama activities related to the Integrated Inquiry Unit and the school-wide social skills program.

Library

Children will have the opportunity to borrow and return books and take part in Library lessons once a week. A library bag is required for the children to be able to borrow books. Literature appreciation and early information gathering skills will be the focus for Term 1.

Mathematics

Number - the children will:
- Recognise, write and order numbers to 100 and later to 1000.
- Skip count by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s and 10’s to 100 and later 1000.
- Develop mastery of addition number facts to 10 and later to 20.
- Develop mastery of subtraction facts from 10 and later from 20.
- Participate in regular problem solving activities.

Space - the children will:
- Recognise, name and label 2 and later 3 dimensional shapes.
- Develop and extend their understanding of pattern and create their own patterns.

Measurement and Data - the children will:
- Make and read pictographs and other types of graphs to represent collected information.
- Consolidate their understandings of volume, capacity and temperature

Integrated Unit of Study

‘The Commonwealth Games’ is the title for the Integrated Inquiry Unit for Term 1. The focus of the Unit is for the students to look at the different sports, countries and significance of the Commonwealth Games as a major event for Melbourne.

Learning Technology

The classroom computers will be utilised by children as part of their everyday classroom work. Additional Learning Technologies sessions will take place in the library. Word processing skills, file management and research skills on aspects of the Commonwealth Games will be developed.
Aspects of the Specialist Programs to note include:

**Art**
The focus this term is Collage. The students will explore the attributes and limitations of a wide variety of Papers, Fabrics and recycled materials. They will create their art works using techniques of twisting, shaping, cutting and pasting. Topics will compliment the classroom theme of the Commonwealth Games.

**Indonesian**
The Grade 1 children will revise numbers 1-10 and learn the words for first, second, third, fourth, etc. The Grade 2’s will learn some words for actions. For example; run, walk, play, swim, etc. They will revise numbers 1-20.

**Physical Education**
Term 1 will begin with a quick revision of skill taught last year in running, jumping, hopping, leaping and dodging. We will then concentrate work on throwing and catching and striking skills, all with a variety of bats and balls. Students will continue to start every class with a brief fitness and stretching component.

**Music**
Year 1 & 2 will revise the solfah symbols and improve their recognition of the hand signs with a focus on accurate pitch placement. We will revise rhythm note values and play rhythms on un tuned percussion instruments. Songs with dance movements will help the children to explore their new working area in the music room.

Whilst this is a general overview of the curriculum this term, parents are reminded that all students are assessed individually and taught at their appropriate level.

**‘You Can Do It’ and Values Programs**
The foundation for Term 1 is Getting Along. This foundation is especially related to developing the ability to mix well with others, to be tolerant and non-judgemental.

**Parent Helpers**
Trained Classroom Helpers participate in the classrooms during Literacy and Numeracy sessions. Training for interested parents will be available later in the term. Parents also help with excursions, book covering, laminating and word processing etc. Level 2 teachers’ welcome offers of classroom help, which will begin later in February.

**Visiting Your Child’s Classroom**
Children often like to show their classroom to parents either before school or when collected in the afternoon. Visits for a quick browse at these times are always welcome, but please keep in mind that for safety reasons children are not to be unaccompanied. Generally, teachers are busy with preparations for the day, so it is best to make contact via the Communication Book and arrange a suitable time for any specific discussions.

**We would appreciate your assistance by:**
- The donation of one large box of tissues to your child’s classroom, so that we can provide assistance for minor sniffles and sneezes which occur throughout the year.
- The donation of any ice-cream containers – large, small, round, square and with, or without, lids - to be used for the storage of equipment.

**Dates to Remember**
- Friday 10th February – New Families Welcome Barbecue (6:00 pm–7:30 pm)
- Monday 13th February – Assembly Grade 2B
- Monday 20th February – Information Evening for CSF Level 2 (6:30 pm-7:30 pm)
- Monday 27th February – ‘Getting to Know You’ Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Friday 3rd March – Clean Up Australia Schools Day
- Friday 10th March – End of Term 1 2:30pm Dismissal

**CSF Level Two Team**
Mr Stephen Coughlan, Miss Michelle Bolle, Mrs Gillian Dodd, Mr Andrew Cassidy, Mrs Sandra Lloyd, Mrs Sandy Mettrick and Mrs Vicki Goldsworthy.