English
Reading - All children have been placed in flexible, focused Guided Reading groups. The children will work in small instructional groups 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: 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 and procedural text structure. Some specific Thinking Tools with a writing focus will be incorporated into writing sessions. These include 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. 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 extending to 1000.
- Skip count by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s and 10’s to 100 extending to 1000.
- Develop mastery of addition number facts to 10 extending to 20.
- Develop mastery of subtraction facts from 10 extending to 20.
- Participate in regular problem solving activities.

Space - the children will:
- Recognise, name and label 2 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 understandings of volume, capacity and temperature

Integrated Unit of Study
‘Aboriginal Dreaming’ is the title for the Integrated Inquiry Unit for Term 1. The focus of the Unit is the life and culture of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, revolving around their relationships with every living creature and feature of the landscape. The children will gain understandings of Aboriginal Dreaming as an integral part of the aboriginal culture – past, present and future.
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 our Integrated Inquiry, Aboriginal Dreamtime will be developed.

Aspects of the Specialist Programs to note include:

Art - The focus for this term is Collage. The students will experiment with different materials sticking them onto paper and cardboard. They will create their own works and in some areas their work will tie in with their integrated topic of Aboriginal Dreaming. Students will use string, tissue paper, corrugated cardboard, paint and paper to create interesting pieces of work.

Mandarin - The Grade 1’s and 2’s will be introduced to the Chinese culture and taught a few simple greeting phrases.

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 Students will transfer and implement the skills learnt in small sided skill games.

Music - Year 1 & 2 will revise rhythm notation via Aural Perception games, practical and written activities. Singing will be a major focus of the program. We will be performing short ensembles using voice & un tuned percussion.

‘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 to show respect for others’ differences.

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. The school requires that all parents wishing to regularly help in the classroom or on excursions, obtain a Working With Children Check from any post office – this check is free and lasts for 5 years.

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 sniffs 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
- Thursday 7th February First Newsletter for 2008
- Friday 8th February New Jells Park Primary families barbeque
- Monday 18th February VELS Level Parent Information Evening
- Monday 25th February ‘Getting to Know Your Child’ Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Monday 10th March Labour Day Holiday
- Tuesday 11th March Mandarin Activity Day
- Monday 18th March Early Literacy and Numeracy Parent Training – 2.00pm – 3.30pm
- Thursday 20th March End of Term 1 – 2.30pm dismissal

CSF Level Two Team
Mrs Leah Kaliviotis, Mr Stephen Coughlan, Mrs Heather Cook, Miss Lauren Newton
Mrs Gillian Dodd, Miss Narelle Smith, Miss Kellie Smith.