English

Reading - All children will be placed in flexible, focused Guided Reading groups, working at least twice 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. 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. 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. Home reading books will also be sent home nightly to encourage reading at home and returned the following day to the classroom.

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 students will focus on the Jells Park Primary Spelling Step Program. This consists of spelling steps that students will work through at their own level throughout the term.

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.

Measurement, Chance and Data - the children will:
- Make and read pictographs and other types of graphs to represent collected information.
- Consolidate their understandings of volume and capacity.
- Collecting data and using bar and picture graphs as well as tally sheets.

Integrated Unit of Study
‘Secrets of the Sea’ is the title for the Integrated Inquiry Unit for Term 1. The focus of the Unit is to recognise the beach (including the coast and foreshore) as an important natural system in our environment, which is affected by people and also changed by natural forces such as wind. Students will use an inquiry approach to look at natural systems, human use and modification of beaches, natural changes, resources from the sea, dangers and safety issues, pollution and care of beaches. A highlight of the unit will be an excursion to Rickett’s Point on Friday 13th March.

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 new computer lab. Word processing skills, file management and research skills on aspects of ‘Secrets of the Sea’ will be developed. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in ICT rotations throughout this term.
Art
The focus this term is Threads and Textiles. The students will be introduced to a variety of activities using different techniques, including pulling threads, sewing, dyeing etc. They will develop basic skills in the areas of collage, threads and textiles. Topics will be related to the classroom Integrated Inquiry Units of Secrets of the Sea.

Mandarin
The Grade 1 children will start the term with learning some basic greeting phrases and the words for numbers 1 – 10. They will listen to Chinese folk tales and be introduced to the Chinese culture. They will participate in group activities and use flash cards to recognise the Mandarin script for numbers 1-10. The Grade 2 children will start the term with revision of Mandarin greeting phrases and words for numbers, colours and body parts. They will learn the words for animals and be introduced to the Chinese zodiac.

Physical Education
Term 1 will begin with a revision of fundamental motor skills taught last year in running, jumping, hopping, throwing and catching with various equipment. We will then concentrate work on kicking skills with a variety of balls. Students will continue to start every class with a brief fitness and stretching component stressing the importance of warming up appropriately. Students will transfer and implement the skills learnt into small sided skill games. Level 2 students will enjoy Grade 1 and 2 Sport sessions on a Thursday afternoon with their class teachers.

Music
Years 1 & 2 will revise rhythm notation via Aural Perception games, practical and written activities. Singing, playing and moving to a range of music will be a major focus of the program, demonstrating an awareness of music concepts. Students will be performing short ensembles using voice & untuned percussion. Composing simple tunes and doing graphic notation will also be included in the program.

‘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. Parents participating in any aspects of the classroom will require a Working With Children Check. Parents may 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.

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 margarine and ice-cream containers – large, small, round, square and with, or without, lids - to be used for the storage of equipment. Also any egg cartons that are available would be most appreciated.

Dates to Remember
- Tuesday 10th February Parent/Teacher interviews “Getting to know you”
- Thursday 12th February New Families Welcome Barbecue (6:00 pm–7:30 pm)
- Thursday 26th February “The Human Race” Incursion
- Monday 2nd March Maths Talent Quest Information Evening 4-5pm
- Monday 2nd March 2C’s Assembly
- Monday 9th March Labour Day Holiday
- Friday 13th March Excursion to Rickett’s Point
- Monday 30th March 1L’s Assembly

Level Two Team
Miss Narelle Smith, Mr Josef Burke-Smith, Mrs Leah Kaliviotis, Mrs Heather Cook, Mrs Rebecca Cornell, Mrs Laraine Clacher, Mrs Sandy Mettrick, Mrs Pattie Walker, Mrs Jillian Bobinac.