



# Grade 1 Newsletter

## March 31st, 2017

### Important Dates

**End of Term 1**  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
2.30pm

**The Patch Moonlight  
Cinema**  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
6pm

**Start of Term 2**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

**Curriculum Day**  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April

**ANZAC Day public  
holiday**  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Dear Grade 1 families,

Can you believe we are already at the end of Term 1? We certainly cannot! What a wonderful term it has been. Students have spent some time this week reflecting on their favourite learning moments and sharing highlights and activities they have enjoyed the most. Some of which included: meeting their new teacher and making new friends; STEM, well-being, spelling with our Grade 4 buddies, making time capsules, our Friday raffles, subitising, counting by two's, writing and making connections when we read and ICT!

With the cooler weather on our doorstep, the time has come to put away the hats until Term 4 and replace them with raincoats! We ask that in Term 2, your child dresses appropriately for The Patch weather. This include warmer clothing, raincoats and even a plastic bag with spare pants and tops in case of slips in the mud!

We have enjoyed getting to know your children (and you, the parents!) and look forward the Term ahead (after a much deserved break of course!)

We wish you a Happy Easter and wonderful break!

Megan and Tania : )

# NUMERACY NEWS

We have been all about number this term! Our focus has been on number sense – trusting the count, ordering numbers, writing numerals correctly, counting by two's and subitising. Your children have become subitising wizards! Subitising is the ability to recognise dot arrangements in different patterns in various quantities without counting (we have been working on up to 10). We have been building this skill through the use of flashcards, interactive activities and lots of games (such as memory and bingo). We have been practising looking for groups or patterns – seeing something they recognise (i.e. 6 pattern on a die) to help them know the whole (and one more is 7).

Games have become a fantastic tool to engage students, interact with their classmates, build confidence in their own ability and practice learned skills and concepts. There are plenty of free printables (flashcards and games) on the internet and we encourage you to play these games with your children at home to reinforce the learning in the classroom.

## Literacy corner

Our students are thoroughly enjoying our weekly spelling sessions with their Grade 4 buddies! It's a wonderful opportunity to work across the school with other year levels and it has been lovely to see relationships blossom with the Grade 4's. Your children are doing a marvellous job with their weekly spelling words. Students are diligent by ensuring their diary is at school every Monday and Friday for new words and testing. If your child has their diary at school, you will see their three weekly words glued in under the current week. We have been brainstorming the fun and different ways we can practise our spelling words. Some suggestions have been:

- ❖ Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check
- ❖ Type their words on the computer (great integration with ICT!)
- ❖ Tracing their words in the sandpit (or flour in the kitchen if you are brave!)
- ❖ Building their words using manipulatives such as playdough, pipe cleaners etc.
- ❖ Using Lego to create words



## ***Class donations***

A HUGE thank you to those generous souls for donating boxes of tissues and contributions to our prize box. With the change in season and the cool weather approaching, we have seen many colds and runny noses in Grade 1 so we appreciate your assistance in our battle against the empty tissues box war! Our students look forward to our Friday raffles, so every bouncy ball, hair clip or sticker sheet help to fill our box and bring a little joy to the end of our week.

