

30th January, 2017

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2017 school year. I hope you have all had a relaxing holiday with your families and are fresh for the year ahead. Many of you are probably relieved that your children are back at school!

I am very excited to be teaching your child this year. My name is Kristen Bowden and I will be your child’s class teacher for the whole of 2017.

We will be doing many exciting things this year and as they come up you will receive a note in your child’s diary or organisation case. Please check these on a daily basis.

**Daily Organisation:**

There are a couple of books (Diary, Homework Book, Maths Mental Book) and bits and pieces of stationery that will be coming home in the first week of school. Feel free to contact these books at home and label them as well as the stationery. Please note that the children will be required to have a pencil case this year and be responsible for their own stationery at school (lead pencil, coloured pencils, textas, pencil sharpener, ruler, glue and eraser). You may wish to purchase one or use the organisation case to keep all of their belongings together.

Organisation Case: The organisation case (A4) is a zipper type pencil case which keeps everything safe and in one place whilst travelling to and from school. This case helps children stay organised by keeping their diary, homework book, readers/ novels and any notes in the one place. Please check the organisation case each night with your child for any notes etc.

School Diary: This book allows communication between parent/ caregiver/ teacher and also contains homework tasks for your child on a daily basis. The diary has your child’s weekly spelling list in it. Please help your child with the correct spelling of their words each night, as there will be dictation on Fridays (except week one of term one).

Please feel free to write anything in the diary regarding your child that I need to know about. Notes from your child or myself may also be written or stuck in there. If you have a note for me please put the diary on my desk in the morning. It is important that your child’s diary is at school each day.

Homework Book: This book (A5 size) is for homework tasks such as learning spelling words, practicing times tables and any other type of homework.

Other School Books: Our other school books (Spelling, Writing, Inquiry, Maths) will be decorated at school and covered with a clear plastic sleeve.

**Sun Safe Policy:**

Please ensure your child has a broad brimmed or legionnaire style hat to wear to school. Terms 1 and 4 (approx.) require these hats to be worn. Sunscreen is available in the classroom (near the door) if you would like your child to be wearing it during the school day.

**Break Times:**

There are three break times for your child to eat and have a mental rest during the day. These are:

**Fruit break** at 10am. The children can have a snack of fruit or vegetables. This break is for about 15 mins. During this we will read the class novel together or play an interactive maths game. If the weather is suitable we will eat outside. We usually follow our fruit break with fitness outside.

**Recess** at 10:50am. The children can have any type of snack and this break is for 20 mins.

**Lunch** at 1:00pm. The children have 10 mins in class to eat their lunch and then play outside for 40 mins.

\*Water bottles are kept on the children’s desks and can be used at any time needed.

**Specialist Lessons:**

On the following days are times when the children attend specialist lessons out of the classroom:

Monday: German at 11:50am- 1:10pm with Frau Smith.

Monday (even weeks): Music at 8:50- 9:30am with Mrs Rayner.

Tuesday: Library borrowing at 2:30pm with the class.

Wednesday: Health and P.E. at 11:10- 11:50am with Mr James.

Thursday: P.E. at 8:50- 9:30am with Mrs Pettman.

Thursday: Music at 1:50- 2:30pm with Mrs Rayner.

Friday: Buddy Class at 1:50- 3:10pm with Miss Dow’s Reception Class.

**Tissues:**

It is a school requirement that every child per class brings in a box of tissues. These will be used by the children throughout the year, especially during Winter time! Thank you for your cooperation in bringing these in.

**Attendance:**

It would be greatly appreciated that your child arrives to school on time each day. We have two weekly out of class lessons that start at 8:50am punctually. The classroom opens at 8:30- 8:40am daily and gives the children ample time to organise themselves before the school day starts.

Please ring Heather or Chelsee in the office (8270 4144) if your child is going to be absent for the day. It is important for the school to keep accurate attendance records. Thank you.

If you need to ask any questions please feel free to see me in the classroom, write a note in your child’s diary or send me an email (Kristen.Bowden49@schools.sa.edu.au).

I look forward to a successful and rewarding year for both you and your child.



Yours sincerely

Kristen Bowden