**PARKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**GRADE 1 INFORMATION**

<table>
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<th>CLASS TEACHERS:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Mel Johnson (co-ordinator)</td>
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<td>Mrs Andrea Strong</td>
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<td>Miss Stephanie Strong</td>
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<td>Miss Ellie Dennis</td>
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**CURRICULUM**

AusVELS is the Foundation (prep) to Year 10 curriculum which schools use to plan student learning programs, assess student progress and report to parents.

AusVELS incorporates the Australian Curriculum F-10 for English, Mathematics, History and Science within the curriculum framework first developed for the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS).

**LITERACY**

Literacy encompasses 3 dimensions: Reading and Viewing, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Literacy sessions are taught each morning (depending on the specialist timetable). Within this time students are presented with many opportunities to develop all three dimensions. Spelling, handwriting, punctuation and grammar are also taught.

**READING**

In Grade 1 reading takes place within the classroom each day. Your child will read in a variety of ways - to themselves, a partner, a parent helper or their teacher; individually and in small group sessions. Reading is encouraged as much as possible at home (ideally, every night or morning). We ask that you foster a love of reading and an appreciation of literature at home.

We also ask that you encourage expression and voice projection when you hear your child read their reader. Please discuss the book with your child and ask questions to ensure your child has understood his/her reading.
• Children will need to bring their reader cover with their book/s to school every day.
• Please sign the reading sheet when you have heard your child read.

READING HELPERS
You are welcome to help out during our daily ‘Traffic Light’ reading time by listening to children read. Please see your child’s teacher if you are able to assist in this way. Your assistance and support is always greatly appreciated.
Please note that everyone wishing to help will need to have a current ‘Working with Children’ Check and will need to show it to the classroom teacher before beginning.

CAFÉ and DAILY 3
CAFÉ is an acronym for the four major components of reading. They are:
• C for Comprehension (I understand what I read)
• A for Accuracy (I can read the words)
• F for Fluency (I can read smoothly with few errors)
• E for Expanding Vocabulary (I know, find and use interesting words)

The children will learn reading strategies within each category. These strategies will become tools for the children to use to help themselves become better readers and writers. We will keep you informed when new strategies are introduced. Then, when you read with your child at home, you will be able to reinforce these concepts.

The Daily 3 refers to how we will be structuring our reading sessions so every student is independently engaged in meaningful reading. The activities listed below have been identified through much research as having the biggest impact on student reading achievement. The students receive explicit whole group instruction and then are given time to read independently while the teacher provides focused instruction to small groups of students during Guided Reading.

The three tasks are:
• Read to Self
• Listen to Reading
• Read to Someone
SPELLING WORDS
Students will work on a list of spelling words within the classroom each week. Initially we will focus on High Frequency Words before moving onto lists of words that share a common sound. The students will also bring home their spelling words to learn for a quiz each week. A new spelling list will be placed inside your child’s reader cover on Mondays. Students will begin taking home spelling lists in term 2.

NUMERACY
Mathematics has 3 dimensions: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.
At Parkdale P.S. children are pre tested on upcoming maths concepts and are then grouped according to their level of knowledge of that topic. This allows us to plan activities and lessons which are directly suited to the needs of the children in each group. All groups cover the same concept at the same time.
The Envision Maths program underpins our planning however we draw ideas and activities from a wide variety of sources.

GRADE ONE SUPPORT
The students in grade one are supported in their learning through the inclusion of an additional assistance program run Monday to Thursday. The focus is on literacy in the morning where students will work on reading, writing and spelling skills and strategies. After recess our support teacher, Mrs Rachael Hibbins runs one of our maths groups allowing us to split the 4 grade one classes into 5 maths classes.

ROTATIONS
The students will participate in a variety of activities in mixed grade 1 groups as part of rotations. Activities will include art and craft, drama, social skills, science and others related to our Inquiry topics.

HOMEWORK
READING – All children are expected to practise independent reading for a minimum of 10 minutes each night or morning.
SPELLING – The children will focus on a group of spelling words each week and learning these will be part of their homework requirements.
INQUIRY – At times there may be a small homework task related to our Inquiry topic. We also encourage the children to practise number facts and skip counting at home, for example counting by 2, 5 and 10 from various starting points.
In addition, there may be occasions where children are required to complete aspects of work not completed during the normal lesson time.
UNIFORMS
Hats are compulsory in Term 1 and Term 4. Children need to wear their hat outside during recess, lunch, sport and PE lessons. Hats can be purchased at the school office for $8. If your child does not have a hat they will need to play in a shady spot such as on the deck.

NOTICE BAGS
All notices, including excursion forms and any other important information will be sent home in your child’s navy blue notice bag. Please ensure that this is emptied and placed back in your child’s schoolbag each day.

NEWSLETTERS
Each week the school publishes a Newsletter online. Please ensure you subscribe. It not only contains our “What’s Happening” section, but valuable information and dates. [http://www.parkdaleps.vic.edu.au/](http://www.parkdaleps.vic.edu.au/)

SKOOLBAG APP
This is a fantastic app that the school uses to send out notifications. Please ensure you have it downloaded to your smart phone.

ABSENCE NOTES
If your child is absent from school for any reason you are required to send a note, email or notify us through the ‘Skoolbag’ app. If you need to collect your child from school early you must first sign them out at the front office. You will then be given an Early Leaver pass by the office staff which needs to be handed to your child’s teacher before they leave the school.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
Whole school assemblies are held every Monday morning at 9am outside in the central quadrangle. ‘You’re a Star’ awards are presented at this assembly and published in Focus.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS
Lunchtime clubs will continue to run this year. The clubs include Library, Indoor games, Choir, Play Cave, Lego, Dress up and Garden Club

GRADE 1 SPORT
Students participate in a variety of sporting activities each Wednesday afternoon. Students need to wear their House Coloured t-shirts, runners, hat and sunscreen on this day.
FIRST AID (ANAPHYLAXIS, ALLERGY AND ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PLANS)

We are currently in the process of updating the anaphylaxis, allergy and asthma management plans of students at Parkdale Primary School as per Department of Education and Training guidelines. If your child has an anaphylaxis, allergy or asthma management plan that has not been given to the school and/or updated since February 2015, could you please make arrangements for the plan to be updated, including a recent colour photo of your child, and handed in to the school office as soon as possible.

If your child has an anaphylaxis management plan, their class teacher and other staff will be creating an Individual Management plan for your child relating to both school and extra-curricular activities. This plan will be developed in consultation with the child’s parents/guardian. Should you have any queries regarding the above information, please contact Casey Blacklaw (Grade 4B).

INQUIRY UNITS

The inquiry units for this year are as follows:
★ Term 1 – ‘Learning how to Learn’/ ‘Families Past and Present’
★ Term 2 – ‘Weather in our World’ (P-2 Swimming)
★ Term 3 – ‘Look! Listen!’
★ Term 4 – ‘Under the Sea’

If you have any DVDs, books, posters or items relating to our themes we would greatly appreciate it if these could be sent into school with your child to share with the grade. Remember to name all items so we can return them to you.

SCHOOL RULES

These are the school rules from our School Welfare and Discipline Policy. We are constantly reinforcing them and ask that you please assist us with this by discussing their importance with your child.

- Be kind, friendly & fair
- Act safely
- Stay in the correct areas
- Show respect for others and property
- Follow instructions
- Take responsibility for your own actions
YOU CAN DO IT

Parkdale Primary School promotes the implementation of the You Can Do It program for our entire school community. The You Can Do It program provides all children with the foundations for achievement and well-being in school, work and the world tomorrow. The You Can Do It program focuses on the foundations of:

★ CONFIDENCE
★ PERSISTENCE
★ ORGANISATION
★ RESILIENCE
★ GETTING ALONG

Along with the five foundations, the You Can Do It program reinforces and encourages the development of Positive Habits of the Mind.

These are:

Accepting myself  Taking risks  Being independent
I can do it attitude  Giving effort  Working tough
Setting goals  Planning my time  Being tolerant of others
Thinking first  Playing by the rules

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS AT PARKDALE P.S

ICT (INFORMATION COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY) – MRS. DENISE WILKINS and MRS. DENISE RANKIN

ICT at the Grade 1 level focuses on creating and formatting documents then saving and printing. They also investigate programs that reinforce computer knowledge such as navigating menus and word processing. Students use multimedia programs such as Kahootz to develop slideshows. There is an emphasis on sharing products with their peers.

LIBRARY

The children have a lesson each week that includes library borrowing. All children need to have a bag and return their borrowed books each week.

PERFORMING ARTS – MS. DIANNE MEEK

In Music the focus is on learning how to sing appropriate songs in tune and to sing in canon (a round) using a basic range of notes.

In Drama – students use their knowledge of simple stories to act out the storyline using appropriate actions and voices. They also learn how to use body language to express feelings and moods, leading to mime activities.
In Dance—students focus on basic dance moves and, in groups, create their own sequences of moves to accompany known music.

*CHOIR for Yr 1 & 2 is on Monday lunch time. (all welcome but must commit for a term)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION — MR. CLIFF ANDERSON
We ask that your child wear their runners (no black-soled shoes please) on P.E days and for grade 1 Sport (Wednesday).

P-2 Intensive Swimming Program – 2nd – 13th May 2015 @ Bayside Aquatics (Mentone Grammar)

JAPANESE — MAMI SHERWOOD
Japanese at this level makes students aware that language is used for communication and that people outside their classroom may speak different languages. Students also understand cultural differences and respect these differences. They begin to understand the Japanese language used in the classroom and repeat teacher-modelled language by using body gestures, such as greetings, numbers, colours and classroom rules. They also learn differences in writing systems by practising writing their name in Japanese.

2016 PARKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL FAIR – SUNDAY 20th MARCH
Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time to help with the Parkdale P.S Fair and those who have made donations. Your help is greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there for a big day out!
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to pop in and speak to us or contact us via our email addresses:

johnson.melanie.c@edumail.vic.gov.au
strong.andrea.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
strong.stephanie.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
dennis.ellie.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
rhibbins@icloud.com

wilkins.denise.g@edumail.vic.gov.au
rankin.denise.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
clough.sharon.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
anderson.clifton.f@edumail.vic.gov.au
meek.dianne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
ishikawa.mami.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

bradney.leanne.n@edumail.vic.gov.au
richards.tracy.t@edumail.vic.gov.au