

Grade 1 Information!

Grade 1 Teachers

IC- Miss Jiva Cory (coordinator)
IJ – Mr Nathan James (Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday), Ms Lisa Flynn
(Wednesdays)
IM – Miss Lauren Martin
IP – Ms Jo Pyke

School Times

8:50 – 9:00	Students arrive in classrooms
10:00	Fruit Break
11:30	Recess
1:40	Lunch eating time
1:50 – 2:40	Lunch Play time
3:30	School Finishes

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 reading helper or their teacher; both individually and in small group sessions. Explicit reading strategies are also taught as part of the Literacy sessions.

Reading at home is compulsory. It is essential that students are reading at least 4-5 times a week at home. This ensures consolidation of learnt skills. Research shows that this at home reading assists in improving not only reading skills but also word knowledge and writing skills. During these formative years, it is crucial that children develop a love of reading. We ask for your support in fostering this love and appreciation of literature at home, by making reading at home as fun and stress-free as possible. Comprehension of a text is also a vitally important skill, so we encourage you to discuss your child's books with them during and after reading, ask questions to ensure they have understood the text, and support them in finding the answers when they are unsure. Please see the supporting documentation sent home in the reader and homework folders.

- Children will need to bring their reader satchel (containing their reader cover, readers and homework folder) to school **every day**.
- To assist us with the timely changeover of readers at school, we ask that families sign and date the reading sheet when you have heard your child read.

Please keep an eye out for our more detailed notice regarding our reading program, which will be placed in your child's reader folder in the coming week.



READING HELPERS

In order to give students time to establish their classroom reading routine, we will be holding off on welcoming helpers into the classroom for the time being. Please keep an eye on Compass for further information regarding Reading Helpers, and if you are wanting to assist this year, please ensure that your Working With Children's Check is up to date, and has been sighted and scanned by the main office.

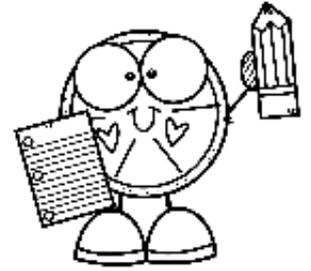
WRITING

A number of genres are taught in Grade One, these include; recounts, narratives, procedural texts, poetry and information reports.

Students will have the opportunity to write as a whole class, with a partner or independently. These different genres are always modelled to students, and we have in-depth discussions about the content and structure, before creating a full writing piece. Students often create a plan, which is used later to support them throughout the writing process.

In Grade 1, we focus on using nouns, verbs and adjectives to enhance our written pieces, as well as tier two and subject-based vocabulary.

Keep an eye out for 'Focus' to see our current writing genre and how you can assist at home.



WORD STUDY

Our Word Study program uses the Multisensory Structured Learning evidence-based approach, through the implementation of the PhOrMeS curriculum. PhOrMeS is an acronym for Phonology, Orthography, Morphology, Etymology and Semantics. Students will actively participate in lessons which explicitly teach spelling concepts and provide the opportunity for the consolidation of knowledge through application during Literacy sessions and throughout the various curriculum areas.

MATHEMATICS

At Parkdale P.S., we utilise Essential Assessment to pre and post-test students at the beginning and end of each Mathematical concept. The individualised student data that is collected through this tool and along with our ongoing observations and assessment, informs our teaching in order to cater to individual student needs.

Maths Groups are established based on student needs and areas of need, for each concept. Therefore, these groups are subject to change, so you are likely to find that your child may have a variety of Maths teachers throughout the year.

All Maths lessons are differentiated to suit the needs of learners, and incorporate the 4 proficiencies of Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning.



WELLBEING AND SOCIAL SKILLS

In Grade 1, we like to begin each week by introducing a well-being or social skill concept, to focus on during the school week. Throughout the year we will cover our School Super 6 Values, as well as a range of Social and Emotional topics using the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) curriculum, Zones of Regulation and other excellent teaching and learning resources. On Thursdays this year, the Grade 1 cohort will get together to put these skills to the test during our 'Think Time Thursdays' sessions. These sessions are always a fun way to challenge students and empower them to become positive problem solvers!

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 my World’
- ★ Term 3 – ‘Australia’ – (Our place in Australia, States and Territories, capital cities and landmarks)
- ★ Term 4 – ‘Minibeasts’

Throughout the year, we will also endeavour to have an incursion or excursion, linking to our inquiry units to give students a fun opportunity to further extend their understanding of these concepts and topics.

HOMEWORK

In the coming weeks, children will begin to bring home their Homework folder in their reader satchel. We ask that this folder comes to and from school each day and that families check it regularly, as notices, word lists and homework tasks will be added and updated throughout the year.

We will be sending home learning consolidation activities, where a weekly, or at times fortnightly ‘Word Study practise’ pages will be sent home. This sheet will allow students to review current and past spelling rules or codes, weird words, and practise their letter formation. It is designed to be a quick and simple practise to strengthen your child’s understanding and build confidence. It is also expected that as part of the ‘homework’ responsibilities, children will practise independent reading for a minimum of 10 minutes each night or morning.

SEESAW

Seesaw gives us the opportunity to share what is happening in the classroom, with families at home. We remind parents and carers that any pictures of students that are posted on your child’s Seesaw, are not to be shared on social media.

Teachers have already set up this year’s Seesaw account. If you do not already have access, please contact your class teacher if you require further information or assistance logging in.

GRADE 1 SPORT

Students participate in a variety of sporting activities each **Monday** afternoon. On this day, students can wear their Parkdale Primary sports t-shirt or their normal school t-shirt, and will need to remember their runners, hat, drink bottle and sunscreen.

UNIFORMS

Students must wear full school uniform each day. This includes only plain blue, black or white socks. Students may wear their sports uniform on Grade 1 sport days (Monday) or their allocated PE day (See class timetables). Parkdale Primary School sports t-shirts can be purchased from Primary School Wear. Hats are compulsory until the start of May and again from September 1st. Children need to wear their hats outside during recess, lunch, sport and PE lessons. If your child does not have a hat, they will need to stay in a shady spot, such as on the deck. **Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled.**

COMPASS AND NEWSLETTERS

Compass is used to mark student rolls and for communication between families and teachers. Every fortnight, the school publishes a Newsletter on Compass. It not only contains our Grade 1 “What’s Happening” section, but also other valuable school information and dates. Please ensure your login details are up to date and you regularly check for updates.

ABSENCE NOTES

If your child is absent from school for any reason, you are required to notify the school and your child’s teacher. This needs to be done through Compass.

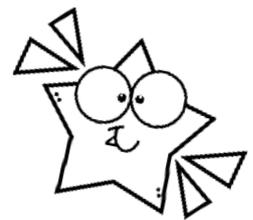
If you need to collect your child from school early, it is school policy that you first sign them out at the front office. Please do not come directly to the classroom to collect them. At the office, you will then be given an **Early Leaver** pass, which then needs to be handed to your child’s teacher before they leave the school.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Whole school assemblies are held every Friday afternoon at 3 pm outside in the central quadrangle. ‘You’re a Star’, and Values awards are presented at this assembly and published in Focus.

PARKDALE PRIMARY’S ‘SUPER SIX’

The six values at Parkdale Primary School are: Responsibility, Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Cooperation and Excellence. Teachings around these values are incorporated into both our **Learning How to Learn and Wellbeing** programs.



SPECIALIST PROGRAMS AT PARKDALE P.S

JAPANESE –Mrs Michelle Mackenzie (Mackenzie Sensei, Mami Sensei)

50mins a week

Students develop their knowledge of the Japanese language and culture through engaging, age-appropriate learning experiences. Through stories, songs, games, and hands-on activities, they learn that language is used for communication. Students use simple Japanese vocabulary and frequently used phrases to describe themselves and their surroundings. Throughout the year, they also develop an appreciation of Japanese culture by learning about festivals and important events through photos, discussions, and classroom activities. They are introduced to Japanese writing systems and begin to recognise simple characters, including pictogram kanji.

PERFORMING ARTS (Mrs Michelle Richard)

50mins per week

Students are taken for a weekly Performing Arts lesson by our specialist Mrs Richard.

The program incorporates Music, Dance and Drama.

- **In Music**, the focus is on learning how to identify and distinguish beat and rhythm, as well as sing songs in tune and in canon (a round) using a basic range of notes. Students also learn to play percussion instruments to chants and songs.
- **In Drama**, students use their knowledge of simple stories to act out the storyline using their actions and voices. They also learn how to use their whole body 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 music.

Concert

The school presents an annual concert in which all students are involved. This may be a Christmas concert held at school or a larger-scale performance at a hired venue.

Guitar Lessons

Students are also offered group or individual guitar classes after school hours on-site with an external guitar teacher. Contact details are available at the office.

VISUAL ARTS – Mrs Tessa Arnold, Miss Maddelyn Holland

50mins per week

Grade 1 students will attend a session weekly in our specialised Art room with our art teachers. Students will create artworks using different materials, techniques and processes to express their ideas, observations and imagination. These activities throughout the year will incorporate exploring the various Art areas (Drawing, painting, printing, modelling, collage, construction, threads and textiles) and elements (Line, shape, form, colour, value, texture and space). Students will work towards becoming more confident in describing the artworks they make; including where and why artworks are made and viewed.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION- Mr Cliff Anderson

50mins per week

Health and Physical Education each week consists of one 50 minute lesson with Mr. Anderson. Students work on improving their fitness, and fundamental motor skills including ball-handling and striking skills. Children are taught how to use the school playgrounds safely which includes learning the motorcycle landing. We ask that your child wear their runners (no black-soled shoes please) on P.E days and for Grade 1 Sport. Students are also permitted to wear their sports uniform on P.E. and Sport days.

Grade 1 Intensive Swim Program will take place in Term 4, at Mentone Aquatic Centre.

Wellbeing & Digital Technology- Mr Jarrod Sing, Mrs Sophie Pierce

50 mins a week

In Grade 1 each week consists of one 50 minute Wellbeing and Digital Technology lesson with Mr Sing or Mrs Pierce. The first 5 weeks of term will focus on Wellbeing with the second 5 weeks focussing on Digital Technologies. Students will work towards becoming resilient, happy, kind and digitally safe for the coming years.

- **In Wellbeing** we will focus on learning how to communicate and collaborate as a team, recognise emotions, resolve conflict, learn about positive strategies surrounding mental health and being able to soothe our emotions.
- **In Digital Technology**, students will be taught how to use iPad's safely, being cybersafe about what is appropriate to post and what isn't as well as learning about new processing programs and coding applications.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to pop in and speak to us or contact us via our email addresses:

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