

# OSPS Grade 2 Parent Information Night 2017

## GRADE 2 CLASSES AND TEACHERS:

Michelle Richardson 2MR & Sue Jackson (Team Leaders)

Kelly Hall - 2KH

Geoff Zielin - 2GZ

Megan Reed - 2RE

Nick Morrey - 2NM

Jackie Di Siervi - 2JD

Natalie Cancino - 2NC

Siobhan Isley - 2SI

Vanessa O'Connor - 2VO

# Welcome to Grade 2

Our school day begins at 8.45am with our Shared Reading Program where parents are encouraged to join us in the classroom and assist by reading and sharing the children's Take Home reading books. To assist your child in gaining the most from their day please have them at school at this time after they have enjoyed a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast!

Students have recess at 10:40 – 11:10 and lunch at 12:50 – 1:50. Please ensure students have a piece of fruit and/or vegetables to eat each day. We encourage food to be wrapper free to keep our school grounds rubbish free.

In Grade 2 we aim to develop your child's independence.

Ways you can assist us in this include:

- Allowing your child to carry and unpack their own schoolbag.
- Encouraging your child to be responsible for their own belongings.
- Allowing your child to choose and change their own Take Home Reading Books.

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES

- Respect
- Integrity
- Excellence
- Working Together
- Resilience

## ENGLISH

### Reading:

- Shared morning reading at 8:45am (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)
- SRA Reading Program.
- Literacy Groups Program run by each classroom teacher.
- Guided Reading.
- Comprehension activities.
- One scheduled Library visit per week to borrow and return.

- Take Home Reading Books – Each child is encouraged to read at home each night with an adult and share his/her books with you.

These books are not supposed to be difficult for the child. Children tackle more challenging texts at school. We also recommend that children become a member at the local library and also build up a home library with a variety of books to enjoy.

- **We ask that you please sign your child's Home Reading Diary each night after sharing his/her book.**

### **Writing:**

- Different text types taught eg. narratives, recounts, information reports, descriptions, poetry, explanation and persuasive texts.
- VCOP Writing Program – **V**ocabulary, **C**onnectives, **O**peners, **P**unctuation
- Editing skills are very important. Computers may be used for publishing.
- Regular punctuation and grammar activities.
- Handwriting taught explicitly once a week.
- **Covered in classroom groups and in Grade 2 Writing Groups.**

### **Spelling:**

- Each week children are given an individualised list of words. 5 of these words contain a specific sound component and 5 words are from our weekly Reading Eggspress spelling focus.
- Sound patterns and spelling rules are covered.
- Problem solving of new and unusual words.
- Children are taught the use of a dictionary and thesaurus and these are encouraged at home as well.

### **Speaking and Listening:**

- Basic listening skills - eye contact, facing the speaker, focussing, and active listening are taught and constantly reinforced.
- Children prepare and deliver short talks on a given topic.
- Clear and expressive speech is developed – pronounced correctly with appropriate volume and speed.
- Confidence in speaking to an audience is highly developed.

## **MATHEMATICS**

- Daily Maths sessions allowing children to develop mathematical concepts, practise and apply these concepts.
- Problem-Solving activities.
- Using Maths in everyday situations.
- Maths Invaders – 4 times a week. Children work on this program at their own level and develop their automatic response using the four processes.
- Mathletics - This is an online Maths program which covers all areas of the Maths curriculum. The school values this program. We have registered and paid for the program and it is available for all children to work on at home as well as school. Accessing the Mathletics program at home is a great way for children to improve their skills and consolidate what is learnt in class. Each teacher will set tasks for each student once a week.
- The automatic response of addition and subtraction facts, as well as multiplication and division tables are a focus. These are developed through Maths Challenges, games and activities. Please help your children to learn these as they are extremely important.

## **GRADE 2 GROUPS – WRITING AND MATHEMATICS**

- Writing and Maths Groups occur twice weekly and with the added support provided by the school, we have extra teachers to teach in these subjects. These smaller sized groups are to support, consolidate and extend the children's learning at a more individualised level.
- Students are grouped into ability groups and may move between groups.
- These groups begin in Term 2.

## **COMPUTERS**

- Classroom and ICT Laboratory (2 sessions per week)
- Used as a tool for learning in many areas eg. classroom Literacy based program Maths Invaders, Mathletics, research, presentations and programs such as Word and PowerPoint.
- Skill development to use programs effectively.

## **INTEGRATED STUDIES**

Themes cover the areas of Science/Technology, History, Geography and Physical and Personal Development.

- Term 1 - Getting Along and Healthy Eating/Healthy Living
- Term 2 - Machines and Toys: 'Make It, Move It'
- Term 3 - 'Water, Water Everywhere'
- Term 4 - Australia: 'Home Among The Gum Trees' and Celebrations

## **GRADE 2 FITNESS**

- Fitness Program is conducted to develop the children's motor skills and improve their fitness.
- Tuesday and Wednesday
- Please ensure you child wears runners on these days.

## **SPECIALIST PROGRAMS**

- Art - Rochelle Hunt, Janet Wilkins and Lyn Cantlon.
- ILPIC/Japanese - Mami Martin and Sumiko Ranjitkumar.
- Music - Elaine Wilkinson and Christian Meyer.
- P.E. - Marcus Mooney, Brad Cantlon and Nathan Beaumont.

## **YEAR 2 PRODUCTION 'To be announced'**

- Date – Term 4 (TBC)
- A fantastic and valuable experience in which all Year 2 children are keenly involved.
- Parental assistance is most definitely required with this for costumes and sets - we'll keep you posted!

## SWIMMING PROGRAM

- Date - During Term 3 for 8 days.
- Venue: GESAC
- Swimming skills, water safety and survival skills program.
- All children are expected to attend. It is part of our school Physical Education Program and a government priority.

## HOMEWORK

The aims of homework tasks are to reinforce and to develop academic skills and to encourage good work habits.

Homework includes:

- Home reading for at least 10 minutes a night.
- Spelling weekly words – listed in green reader pocket with take home reader.
- Reading Eggspress reading and English skills task.
- Athletics - assigned tasks.
- Practising multiplication tables; 2s, 10s, 5s and 3s.
- Being active by playing a sport, playing outside and/ or practising ball skills; throwing and catching.

## OSPS AUTUMN FETE – Saturday May 6th

Parental support is most definitely needed and appreciated as each class is allocated a stall. Further information will be sent closer to the date.

- 2NM - Café
- 2GZ - Café
- 2VO - Café
- 2RE - Crazy Hair, Nails and Tattoos
- 2MR - Lucky Jars
- 2KH - Spinning Wheel
- 2SI - Roast
- 2NC - Paint n Peel
- 2JD - Fairy Floss

## SICKNESS

- **Unwell children must be cared for at home until recovered.** Children who are unwell at school suffer unnecessarily and don't learn well. Children work in close contact with others and illnesses can be easily spread.

## AMBULANCE COVER

Do YOU have 'Family Ambulance Cover'? OSPS strongly recommends this for the safety and security of your child. If an ambulance is called you will incur all costs.



## TISSUES

- Please send along a box for the children to share **each semester**.

## RESILIENCE & SELF ESTEEM

### 'Able to bounce back from adversity or similar situations'

- All children need to experience success AND failure to achieve self-confidence.
- Children **must be allowed** to experience failure, disappointment and some adversity, in order to develop resilience and coping strategies as well as an ability to put things into perspective.
- Children who are not given the opportunity to experience the natural 'ups and downs' of life, can become overly fearful and anxious.
- Self-confidence comes from the experience of coping successfully with a variety of situations.

## PROBLEMS & CONCERNS

- Please e-mail or speak to your child's teacher regarding work concerns, everyday issues etc. Many problems can be investigated and smoothly resolved through parent/teacher communication.
- **Always bear in mind there may be more to the story than what your child has explained to you.** Having an open mind is very helpful and ask yourself, 'what hasn't my child told me?'
- Do not let playground problems continue unresolved. Speak to your child's teacher. We **WILL** follow up and act on any issues of concern but it is not possible to support you or your child if we aren't informed.
- Children will make mistakes in their behaviour, both other children and your own. This is normal and part of being a child. It is not necessarily a reflection of parenting skills. Please support us to encourage positive behaviours in your child.
- Encourage and expect your child to approach the teacher with any concerns first. We have asked the children to do this. We may be able to resolve the problem much faster. Please support us in this regard.
- **NOTE: Do not under any circumstances, directly approach other children in the yard to sort playground problems out. This is an extremely serious matter and nearly always results in the situation becoming worse, rather than better.**
- **PLEASE allow the teachers, year level co-ordinators, Assistant Principals or Ron Cantlon (Principal) to deal with such concerns.**

## PAYMENTS

Qkr is the mobile payment app, delivering convenience to parents and efficiency to school administrative staff as cash handling is reduced. Qkr is so easy to use.

Ordering and paying for a wide variety of school payments such as fees, excursions and more can be done securely via smartphone at a time and place convenient to you. All you need to do is download the app, register and you are good to go!

Refer to <http://oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/tiqbiz-qkr/> for more information.

## SCHOOL & HOME COMMUNICATION

- Access the school website with news, events and regular year level updates. <http://oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/>
- Download 'tiqbiz' to your Android or Apple phone. This is a very useful, handy app for the school to communicate last minute news with parents via SMS. You must select the year levels which apply to your children. Refer to <http://oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/tiqbiz-qkr/> for more information.
- School newsletter - is **only accessible online**. Tiqbiz will alert you via SMS when a new newsletter edition is uploaded to the website.

## TEACHER EMAILS

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**NOTE: For URGENT matters please phone the school direct on 9570-1016.**

We look forward to your continued support and to a very happy and productive year working with your children.

*The Grade 2 Team*