



OAKLEIGH SOUTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Year 1 Information Booklet 2019

## *Teaching staff:*

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# WELCOME TO YEAR 1

Welcome to the 2019 school year and to Year 1! Thank you for taking the time to read the information contained in this booklet. Some of it you will already be familiar with from our recent newsletter.

This year our Information Night will be held on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February from 6-7pm** in the Year 1 building. We will be going over the information shared in this booklet and answering any questions. You are more than welcome to ask your child's teacher any specific questions prior to this information session. We recommend attending if you are new to our school.

The information provided in this booklet is for your reference. If at any time during the school year you have any queries or problems please don't hesitate to come and see your child's teacher. All of the Year 1 teacher's email addresses are included below.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could have your child at school at 8.45am every day. This is an important time for reading practise. Green reader bags must be brought to school every day. To ensure teachers have time to listen to morning readers, please try to save important conversations for after school/at a mutually acceptable time, or via email.

It is easier getting your child to school on time if they have had a good night's sleep. Experience has also shown us that well-rested children learn and behave better.

Please also help your child develop a greater degree of independence by having them carry their own school bag, be responsible for their belongings and change their "take home reader". This also includes logging on to computer programs Athletics and Readings Eggs at home.

## 2019 TERM DATES (incl. Public Holidays. Curriculum Days TBC)

	TERM 1	
10 weeks	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January (teachers) - Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Mon. 1 <sup>st</sup> March: Labour Day
	TERM 2	
10 weeks	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April - Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Mon. 22 <sup>nd</sup> April: Easter Mon. Thur. 25 <sup>th</sup> April: ANZAC Day Mon. 10 <sup>th</sup> June: Queen's b'day
	TERM 3	
10 weeks	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	
	TERM 4	
11 weeks	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October - Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December (Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December is a Curriculum Day)	Tues. 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov: Melb. Cup Day

## COMMUNICATION

While your child's classroom teacher should be your first port of call, please do not hesitate to contact any of us about anything involving your child's education. Our teachers are very approachable 😊

Jessica Gray:	gray.jessica.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
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Cheyenne Gunning:	gunning.cheyanne.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

## MORNING READING

We encourage as many parents as possible to assist with daily classroom reading. Morning Reading runs on each school morning. Students are asked to change their take home readers from the book boxes in their individual classrooms. All reading must take place in the classrooms. The classroom teacher will have a group of children to listen to each day. These are typically displayed on the interactive whiteboard and sent home for your reference.

Please ensure our classroom environment is calm and quiet so that all students can concentrate. It is also important to our daily curriculum that Morning Reading concludes at 9.00am. Please respect that entering the classroom late may mean your child misses out on morning reading, however reading is embedded throughout our daily teaching planners.

## ENGLISH

Each day all children in Prep to Year Two are involved in a two-hour session of reading and writing. Children join in activities that allow them to practise essential literacy skills.

### TAKE HOME READING BOOKS

Each child is encouraged to read at home every night during the week. Please fill in your child's yellow reading diary on a daily basis. This is a Junior School expectation and must be completed by an adult. Take home readers are given to children in order for them to practise the reading strategies learnt at school. Your child is responsible for choosing their book to read. These books are meant to be read with a *minimum amount of assistance* from an adult. In other words, they should be "easy reads". Many of the coloured dots on the take home readers cover a range of levels. More difficult texts are read by your child at school under the direction of the teacher during Guided Reading sessions. We also encourage wider reading from wonderful free/inexpensive sources like your local library.

Children are assessed on their reading when the teacher observes that they are ready for the next level. **\*\*Students/Parents cannot change reader dot levels without teacher instruction\*\***

### WORD LISTS

A series of Oxford words will be sent home for reading practise throughout the year. All students have been given Word List 1 to begin with. These words are repeated from the Prep word lists and are intended to revise and consolidate students' recall of these sight words. We ask students to read their lists 3 separate times to an adult (tick each box provided), before practising how to spell them. In order to provide more time for reading, writing and spelling practise, we made a team decision that current word lists will be checked and new word lists given out on your child's allocated Morning Reading day. Thank you for your cooperation with this. As in Prep, there is absolutely no rush or competition to complete these word lists! More importantly, we use take-home word lists to support the development of students' reading and writing skills. There are only a short set of word lists to span across the year. The complexity of words increases as the lists progress and provide a great opportunity for you to discuss new words with your child. We do however emphasise the importance of providing your child with a wide range of rich literature where they can learn new vocabulary in meaningful context.

### COMPREHENSION

All children are involved in daily, explicit comprehension tasks. Why do we teach comprehension? Reading is about all understanding, not just the physical activity of decoding words! Engaging with different text types and making connections is equally important.

## WRITING

In Year 1 we cover a range of text types, some of which students were exposed to in Prep and others that are new and exciting. These include recount, description, narrative, letter writing, procedure, persuasive, information reports and poetry. Across all text types, we use an explicit, whole-school approach called VCOP; Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers, Punctuation.

## SPELLING

Students are involved in a variety of activities that teach and enhance their spelling skills and increase their ability to transfer the learnt spelling patterns into their writing. If your child shows interest in spelling at home, they can practise the suggested activities included with their words lists, e.g. rainbow writing, silly sentences and word stairs.

## HANDWRITING

Students will continue refining their handwriting using the Victorian Modern Cursive format. Throughout the year, we will be emphasising the importance of correct starting and finishing places for upper and lowercase letters, as well as using the appropriate lines of the dotted thirds. Handwriting will be taught explicitly once a week as part of our Writing program. We also provide handwriting resources for use at home, if your child requires extra practise.

## READING EGGS

Reading Eggs subscriptions have been rolled over for 2019. Students are provided time during Reading Group rotations to work through their maps. They are also encouraged to continue accessing Reading Eggs at home at least once a week, to consolidate their phonics skills and further develop their comprehension skills through Reading Express. Information about Reading Eggspress will be provided as your child approaches the end of their Reading Eggs maps.

## MATHEMATICS

Daily Maths sessions allow children to develop various mathematical concepts in the areas of Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability. When new concepts are introduced, we first spend time manipulating concrete materials (e.g. counters, unifix blocks, MAB etc) to aid students' understanding. Children are encouraged to develop these concepts from their level of understanding. Sessions vary between whole class, small group and individual settings. Later in the year, we also offer weekly small-group support and extension.

## MATHLETICS

Continuing on from last year, children are encouraged to practise their maths skills at home using the Mathletics program. It is a whole school expectation that students work towards achieving 1000 points, or one certificate, per week. The Mathletics program is designed to be fun while consolidating the skills taught at school. Students need to attempt the activities without adult help where possible. Each class will have a timetabled Mathletics session in the ICT lab each week. A leader board of tallied certificates and points is shown at Year 1 assemblies. *Please note, Maths Seeds subscriptions are only a part of the Prep program at OSPS.*

## MATHS INVADERS

Maths Invaders is a self-paced Mathematics computer program that develops automatic response using the 4 processes of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Maths Invaders work is always supported by practical activities in the classroom. It encourages children to use different strategies (including using their fingers, the numbers on the keyboard, counting on, "friends of ten" etc) when learning to calculate mentally.

## INTEGRATED STUDIES

Each term, different themes are introduced to the children. We encourage them to bring in resources from home that might enhance their learning of the theme. These are our topics for each term, as well as special events or known dress up days, to give you a heads up:

- Term 1:           Knowing Me, Knowing You (Interpersonal Skills) and Time After Time (History)  
*Grandparents Day, Harmony Day (wear orange), Easter Hat Parade*
- Term 2:           Flash, Bang, Fizz! (Chemical Sciences/Space) and Dr Seuss (Literacy Focus)  
*Crazy Hair Day, Fete, Excursion, Wacky Wednesday (Dr Seuss dress up)*
- Term 3:           Around the World (Geography) and My Island Home (Australian Studies)  
*P-2 Swimming program, Incursion, Multicultural Day, Footy Day*
- Term 4:           Fling it, bop it, spin it, drop it! (Physical Sciences) and Christmas/Celebrations  
*Japanese Dress Up Day*

## EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS

The Year 1's will participate in the Healthy Skills for Life program in Term 2 this year. During Term 2, the Year 1's will also go on an excursion to Scienceworks. We will be participating in a theme-based incursion during Term 3 and a child-friendly WWI puppet incursion in Term 4.

## SAPPHIRE CARE

Over the past three years, we have also forged a partnership with Sapphire Care (Aged Care facility), located a short distance on Centre Rd. Year 1 students have taken part in a community-based program with residents at Sapphire Care and it has been wonderful to see the benefits of this program for both age groups. Keep an eye out- a roster will be sent home each term asking for parent/guardian volunteers to walk with us to Sapphire Care.

## SPECIALIST CLASSES

In 2019 the Year 1 specialist teachers are:

MUSIC- Jenny Barnard

ART- Rochelle Hunt

SPORT- Mick McMahon

JAPANESE- Enis Wintersea

LITERACY/MATHS SUPPORT- Sue Thompson, Nicky Bathols, Trina Crimmins, Julie McCormack  
*Library, Computer and Fitness sessions will be taken by Year 1 teachers.*

## FINE MOTOR SKILLS

As 5 - 7 year olds are continuously developing and refining their fine motor skills, we strongly encourage you to provide opportunities for writing, cutting, drawing, kneading, threading etc. at home, using child-sized tools.

## BRAIN FOOD/HEALTHY EATING

We kindly request that all brain food be manageable for your child to eat within 5 minutes. Bite sized pieces of fruit and veggies are ideal! These healthy eating habits should extend to students' snacks and lunches, however please be aware that some classes have students with severe allergies to nuts. Please ensure your child's drink bottle contains water only.

## BUDDIES

Students will continue to catch up with their buddies that they met last year in Prep, who are now in Year 5.

## RESILIENCE & WELLBEING

In 2016, Oakleigh South Primary School was proud to add 'Resilience' to our collection of school values. Student wellbeing is an important focus as we all work to ensure our students are happy and healthy members of our school community. In support of this, students will participate in mindfulness activities during Year 1 assemblies, alternating with Year 1 Fitness each fortnight. They will also take part in the Healthy Skills For Life program from last year.

## HEAD LICE

Please inform your child's teacher if you find your child has head lice. Notices can then be sent home to the grade- names will not be mentioned. We encourage long hair to be hair tied back. By prompting all parents to check hair, we can hopefully keep this under some level of control.

## FLEXIBUZZ

Formally known as "Tiq biz". Please don't forget to download 'FlexiBuzz' to your smartphone, tablet or computer. This is a very useful app for the school to communicate last minute news with parents via sms, e.g. *'The bus will be late home from the Year 1 excursion'*. The school newsletter link is also published each week via FlexiBuzz.

## QKR

OSPS uses an app called 'Qkr!' as our preferred payment method. We ask that you use Qkr! when making payments for all your school accounts. It is quick and easy to download and learn. Charges are child specific - please ensure you have selected the correct child before finalising a payment. Please visit the OSPS website for instructions and further information [www.oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/tiq\\_biz-qkr](http://www.oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/tiq_biz-qkr). The following items are some examples of what can be paid: essential learning fees, excursions / incursions, production DVDs, ride wrist bands for the fete.

Please ensure you return any permission forms to school as early as possible, including any payment receipt numbers where relevant.

## AMBULANCE COVER

We strongly suggest that you have ambulance cover. We are legally obliged to call an ambulance if it is required. If this does occur, you will incur the cost.

## PROBLEMS & CONCERNS

Children will make mistakes in their behaviour. This is normal and part of being a child. Please support us to encourage positive behaviours in your child. Please come and see us regarding everyday concerns. Many issues can be investigated and smoothly resolved through parent/teacher communication.

Try not to let playground problems continue unresolved- speak to your child's teacher. We WILL follow up on any issues of concern but it is impossible to support you or your child if we aren't informed. Always bear in mind there may be more to a story than what your child has explained to you. Having an open mind is very helpful. Ask yourself, 'What hasn't my child told me?'

NOTE: Please do not under any circumstances, directly approach other children in the yard to sort out playground problems. This is an extremely serious matter and always results in the situation becoming worse, rather than better. PLEASE allow the necessary teachers, team leaders, Assistant Principals or Ron Cantlon (Principal) to deal with such concerns.

## REMINDERS

- Manners matter! We place a strong emphasis on students using appropriate manners in the classroom and around the school. Reinforcing the same consistent expectations at school and at home is wonderful for your child's social and interpersonal development.
- Please ensure you have supplied the following items for your child;
  - a library bag to protect library books
  - an art smock to protect clothing during Art lessons
  - slippers to wear inside the classroom
  - two boxes of tissues (one for each semester)
- Please name ALL of your child's clothing and belongings- literally everything!
- All children must have a "Sun Smart" hat. OSPS enforces a "No hat, no play" policy.
- As part of our OSPS dress code policy, please ensure your child is wearing full school uniform at all times. Black leggings or coloured knee high socks are not part of the uniform and hair accessories are limited to black, white or bottle green.
- When collecting your child at the end of the day, please stand well back from the steps at the end of the decking to allow a free flow of children.
- All notices will be sent home in your child's GREEN READER BAG. (Red plastic notice folders are not used in Year 1). Please return notices to your child's classroom teacher so they can be ticked off a class list, rather than taking them directly to the office.
- Year 1 newsletters will be distributed at the beginning of each month. As with whole school newsletters, generic versions of these year level newsletters will be displayed on the school website- <http://oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au> Our school website is a fantastic port of call for all of the latest dates, news and information regarding events happening at our school.
- Classroom Cuisine lunch orders are available every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Orders must be placed online by 8.30am; [www.classroomcuisine.com.au](http://www.classroomcuisine.com.au) Please note that lunch orders arrive at school at 12pm so your child will still require brain food and snack.
- Please teach your child to tie their shoelaces if they wear laced up shoes. This saves both our time and theirs 😊
- This year the OSPS Autumn Fete is on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Helpers will be needed for each of our Year 1 class stalls. Please see individual classroom teachers for more details.
- Swimming dates are TBC. The venue is GESAC, the same as last year.
- ABSENCES- It is a Departmental requirement that an absent note be provided whenever your child is not at school. Where possible, notes can be provided in advance e.g. family holidays. Emailing your classroom teacher or phoning the school office are also acceptable.
- A sign in and out sign out slip must be completed if you arrive at school late (after 9.15am) or are picking your child up early.
- Please be aware that driving into the driveway entrance of the school is not allowed to drop off or pick your child up.
- Parent helpers that volunteer their time with external school events e.g. Swimming, excursions, will need to have a valid 'Working with Children Check. All paperwork is now done online. Any parents wishing to obtain a Working with Children Check will need to visit [www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au) and follow the links.

*Thank you for your continued support 😊*

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TO ENRICH  
YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION!