

**Kurunjang Primary School**

***‘Learning Together’***

**Grade 2 Newsletter – Term 1 2022**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Learning Together**

We would like to take the chance to welcome all of our families and students back to school for an exciting new year. The Grade 2 teachers have been busily preparing for the year ahead and are excited to embark on an exciting journey of learning during Term 1.

**What’s New in Term 1**

As you would have noticed, there have been many changes that have occurred since the end of last year. One of the biggest changes you will have noticed, is that the grade 1 and 2 cohort’s are separate this year. The grade 2 team consists of some new teachers to the area with Blake Mullan being Team Leader in room Bunjil 1, Lisa Condon in room Bunjil 3 and Padma Kumaran in room Bunjil 4. Natasha Dovaston has returned to the area from last year in room Bunjil 2.

**Important Reminders**

Please remember that students need their hats in Term 1 as the weather remains warm. Those UV rays are out even on cloudy days, so ensure that your child has sunscreen applied on high UV days. You can check the daily UV rating on the Bureau of Meteorology website, which can be downloaded for the App Store or Play Store.

Drink bottles filled with water are an important part of your child’s day as they are able to sip water when they get thirsty. This keeps them hydrated, prevents heat related effects on hot days and allows them to maximise their learning without interruptions.

Just a reminder that students have a fruit break at 10am each day, so please supply your child with a healthy piece of fruit to enjoy.

Students should bring a library bag on their library day; library days are listed below. These bags can simply be a plastic bag from home or a previously designated canvas bag from previous years. This year students can borrow up to three books per fortnight, but can be changed each week if they like.

**What are we learning in Term 1?**

In Reading, students will be settling into the structures and routines of the reading workshop, where they will develop skills and strategies for reading unfamiliar words and making meaning from their texts. Students will participate in Conferencing and Guided Reading lessons with their teachers to target teach particular areas of need.

In Writing, students are learning how to be part of a community of writers in the classroom with buddy writers and through structures and routines of the writing workshop. Students are beginning to develop their ideas for writing where they will start drafting books as they become more confident authors.

In Mathematics, students will be expanding their knowledge of counting and place value during the beginning of the term. They will practice skip counting by 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s and read, write and order numbers. They will then investigate different measurement topics like capacity, time and length, participating in engaging learning tasks both inside and outside of their classroom environment.

In Social and Emotional learning/Respectful Relationships, students will be exploring their own emotional literacy. They will identify important emotions and how we express these with our body language. Students will learn about experiences that can cause emotions in themselves and others and will be able to show empathy to their peers.

**Specialist Programs**

**PE -** Students will further develop their throwing and catching skills. Students will participate in minor team games focusing on following rules, playing fairly and working cooperatively with others. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in an 8 day swimming program with a focus on personal survival and stroke technique.

**Performing Arts -** In Levels 1 and 2, students continue their exploration and learning about how ideas and stories can be imagined and communicated through drama. They improvise and create roles, characters and situations and learn about focus and identifying the main idea. They share their drama with peers and experience drama as audiences. Students learn about safety in dramatic play and in interaction with other peers.

**Kitchen/Garden -** During first semester students will participate in a range of activities to promote healthy eating and be able to make informed choices about the foods they eat. They will be involved in planting seeds and vegetables in the garden, tending to these and then using the produce from the garden to make healthy recipes to eat in the Kitchen Garden Classroom Restaurant. They will also be looking at what happens when different ingredients are mixed with others to produce a new substance.

Can you please make that if your child has long hair it is tied back on the day that they have their Kitchen Garden lesson. Thank you.

**Visual Art -** In Term 1 students in year 2 will be investigating drawing using a variety of drawing tools such as oil pastels. They will explore the drawing technique of mark making and will create a drawing artwork using this technique.

**Important Dates**

**Photo Day** - Wednesday the 2nd of March

**Student Learning Conferences** - 9th and 10th of March

**Labour Day** - 14th of March

**Swimming Program** - 28th of March until the 7th of April

**End of Term** - 8th of April

**The Grade 2 Team:**

***Blake Mullan (Team Leader), Lisa Condon, Padma Kumaran, Natasha Dovaston***

