Welcome to the year 1 class children, parents and care-givers. We particularly welcome the children who are new to our class this term.

INTRODUCTION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

WRITTEN LANGUAGE
This term we will continue to write recounts in which the children write about things that they have done individually or as a class. The main focus will be on writing narratives. The topic will be “Bears in Fiction”. The children will:
- Read stories such as “Goldilocks and the Three Bears.”
- Discuss the setting, characters and main parts of the story.
- Analyze various stories noting their structure.
- Vary existing stories by changing a character or the setting.
- Attempt to write their own stories on the theme.

READING
The children will be placed in levelled reading groups in the class. They will:
- Read a range of texts with emphasis on narrative texts.
- Engage in a range of activities to promote their understanding of the texts.
- Continue to work on take home readers and sight words.
When reading at home it is important to ask questions about the book to ensure that the text is understood.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING – Children will
- Participate in newstelling as they did last term.
- Take part in class meetings, discussing issues of relevance to the class.
- Take part in group and small group discussions.

Appropriate items to bring to the class are – books about topics of interest to the child, work that they have done at home, photos of a trip, stamp or other collections. In the past some children have brought slide show presentations that we have been able to view on the “Interactive Whiteboard”. Children will be encouraged to participate in class meetings where issues related to the smooth running of the classroom will be discussed.

SPELLING – This term I will continue to use the spelling program “Words Their Way”. I have given the children a spelling test and placed them into three groups. I will be sending home lists of words to learn on Thursday night for the children to practise at home. Classroom activities will include-
- Vocabulary building activities. For example using the words in sentences and stories.
- Sorting words in different ways. For example placing words with two syllables in one column and three in another.
- Finding the words and their meanings in simple dictionaries.
- Simple dictation.
**MATHEMATICS**

The areas of study are Exploring, Analyzing and Modeling data, Measurement, Number, Pattern and Algebraic Reasoning, Spatial Sense and Geometric Reasoning. This term we will work on Analyzing and Modeling Data, time and number. This year we are using the Australian Curriculum.

This term we will be looking at measurement. We will revise telling the time using o’clock and compare analogue and digital clocks. I will introduce the children to telling the time using half past. We will also explore weight and capacity this term. I will be using the “iMaths” program with the children and we will explore measurement with the investigation “Ramp Champ”. In this the children will roll toy cars down ramps and measure the distance that they have rolled. In addition to measurement we will learn about halves and quarters and revise number work.

**TECHNOLOGY**

In digital technologies with Miss Dianna, the children will begin to develop simple algorithms as a sequence of steps for carrying out instructions. E.g. to direct a robotic devise through a maze. When we work on the computer we will continue to use a number of programs such as “Kid Pics” and “Rainforest Maths” and imaths games.

**GEOGRAPHY**

In the second half of the year we will be studying Geography rather than history. The topic this term will focus on our local area. We will use the ipads to take photos and discuss features of the area. The children will be introduced to maps using Google earth and will explore the local area further using it.

**SCIENCE**

In science this term we will be doing the Primary Connections unit “Up, Down and All Around.” In this unit of work the children will be observing the daily, weekly and seasonal changes that take place in their local environment.

**HEALTH AND PE**

Once again this year the children will be involved in the Junior Primary circuit each week, which involves doing activities at different stations, such as skipping, hoops, step ups and them rotating through the different activities.

The children are having a PE lesson with Daniel Nguyen each week. This term the will continue to develop fine motor skills in jumping and hopping through “Jump Rope”, with an understanding of how physical activity can improve wellbeing.

Once again we are having “Fruit Time”, or “Healthy Snack Time” at about 10 o’clock each day. If possible could children bring some fruit cut up so that they can finish eating in about five to ten minutes. Some children struggle with a whole apple or orange in that amount of time. Alternatives to fruit could be cut up celery and carrot.

**THE ARTS**

The children have one art lesson a week with Gail Glasper this term. They will be exploring techniques and processes needed to make 3D artworks. In performing arts the children will be learning about the five elements of dance and how they are used to develop choreography with Ms Poppy. In addition to this I have an interest in singing and will teach the children a number of action songs, rhymes and games throughout the year.
LIBRARY

Our library day will continue to be Thursday each week and the children are able to borrow two books which should be returned within a two week period.

STUDENT TEACHER
This term we will be having a student teacher working in our class. Her name is Yi Zhao. She is a final year placement and will be working in most curriculum areas. Yi has an interest in music therapy and will be doing some music lessons with the children.

PUNCTUALITY

If your child arrives after the 8.40 bell, they will need to collect a green card from the office and you will need to give the reason for the lateness when you drop them off. Punctuality is very important as the children need to get organized at the beginning of the day to be ready for the day’s learning.

We have made a good start to the term. I am excited about the learning that will take place this term.

Regards,

LKG Peterson (Class Teacher)