



GRADE 2 NEWSLETTER Term 2 – 2024

Important Dates for Term 2, 2024

WEEK	DATE	EVENT
1	Thursday 25th April	ANZAC Day (student free)
4	6-10th May	Maths week
4	Wednesday 8th May	Maths Week Open Morning 9am - 11am
4	Friday 10th May	Mothers' Day breakfast
6	Wednesday 22nd May	Curriculum day (student free)
7	Thursday 30th May	Scienceworks excursion
8	Thursday 6th June	Professor Bunsen science workshop
8	Friday 7th June	Curriculum day (student free)
9	Monday 10th June	King's Birthday public holiday
11	Friday 28rd June	Last day of term 2 - 2.30pm dismissal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Term 2, 2024. We are looking forward to this term and are excited about the learning and events to come. Compass remains our platform for all communication across the school but please read below for information regarding the activities, learning and special dates occurring throughout this term in the grade two area.

CURRICULUM NEWS

English

In reading this term students will be focussing on making connections with their reading. For example, linking a book to their own experiences, other texts and the world. Students will continue to work in small groups during reading instruction where their individual needs will be targeted. An emphasis will be placed on strategies to improve fluency. In writing, our focus is on procedural and explanation text types, including their structure and language features. We will explore writing traits to improve students' writing and engage the audience. SMART Spelling strategies will be the basis of our spelling program as we further investigate a number of graphs, digraphs and trigraphs through daily instruction and activities within the classroom.

Mathematics

During our Number and Algebra lessons, students will be further developing their understanding of various addition and subtraction strategies. This knowledge will then be applied to introduce vertical addition and subtraction without renaming. In Measurement and Geometry, students will explore and identify a variety of two and three dimensional shapes and their features. Linking to our Term 2 inquiry 'How do things move?', students will investigate the volume and capacity of three dimensional shapes. Students are encouraged to reinforce their understandings by using the Mathletics app at home.

Inquiry

Term two covers the curriculum areas of Science, Design and Technology with a scientific inquiry into forces that act on objects. Our Inquiry question is 'How do things move?' As part of this unit students will explore the cause and effect of the forces of push and pull, momentum, friction, gravity, air resistance and conclude with building their own moving toy. The students will deepen their understanding of the scientific concepts covered through taking part in a workshop with Professor Bunsen, an excursion to Scienceworks, a local walk and hands-on investigations.

Physical Education

In Physical Education this term, Grade 2 students will continue to work on our ball handling skills focusing on throwing overarm, catching, bouncing and kicking. We will apply these in minor games and develop their skills in the modified games of soccer and AFL.

Visual Art

In Visual Art this term, Grade 2 students will be revising hand rolling terracotta clay to make a coil pot and will paint it once the firing process is complete. They will be studying the Cubism style of Picasso and drawing their individual representation of a Cubist sun/moon or face completing the artwork by selecting a warm or cool tone to colour blend it. Oil pastels and metallic paint will be used. An African plain sunset silhouette painting will also be introduced.

Italian

In Italian this term, Grade 2 students will be learning about Italian Easter customs and comparing them to Australian traditions. They will continue to learn about Italy by sharing literature, including the text 'Neo Leo'. Students will explore Leonardo Da Vinci's advanced thinking and inventions and begin to look at the history of the Roman Empire and ancient European history. Students will learn about the Gladiators and their importance in early Roman culture, becoming familiar with early Roman family life.

STEM

In STEM this term, Grade 2 students will be investigating formal coding and robotics through use of Sphero robots. They will complete step-by-step procedures, problem solving and maze creation, incorporating their knowledge of mathematics, angles and sensors. Students will design, write and debug algorithms that accomplish specific goals.

Throughout the year we encourage parents to engage with their children and ask them questions about their school day. Below are some questions that you could ask your child about their day at school.

What made you smile today?

Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?

What did you do that was creative?

What was the best thing that happened today?

What is something you heard that surprised you?

Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.

What is something that challenged you?

What questions did you ask at school today?

What are you reading? <https://herviewfromhome.com/50-questions-to-ask-your-kids-instead-of-asking-how-was-your-day/>

We are looking forward to a very productive term. If you have any questions or concerns please speak to your child's classroom teacher.

Kind Regards,

Grade Two Team:

Peta Alexander, Lisa Costanzo, Rosie Morgan, and Rachel Thomas.