

# Year 1 Overview Newsletter Term 4 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 4. It was great to end Term 3 celebrating your child's learning and achievements at their Learning Journey. It was nice to see students so engaged in the activities and excited about their classrooms.

**REMINDER** 

NPS is an **allergy** friendly school. Please do not bring products that contain **nuts or eggs** to school.

We have a busy term of learning ahead of us with some exciting events coming up. In week 4 we will be attending our excursion to the National Botanic Gardens. Students will be taken on a guided tour by a park ranger and investigate what different animals need from their environment and what makes a successful home.

Later in the term we will be beginning to organise and practise our Little Gig Performance. Notes will be going home with more information. We look forward to sharing it with you to celebrate the end of the year.

This Term, we will be starting to implement 'Battle of the Books' in our class. Having a different topic each week will allow students to experience new genres, authors and stories. It will replace Talk Time and homework and will run in the same way Talk Time has been done this year.

Kind regards, Matt, Nichole, Raina, Rochelle, Sheridan

## Our Learning This Term

This term students will be participating in a Geography unit of work. It will focus on the natural, managed and constructed features in the local area. This includes the school, Ngunnawal and Gungahlin. Students will describe how to care for different places and recognise that people care for places differently. They will reflect on their learning to suggest ways that people can care for different places. Our excursion will be an excellent opportunity to extend their learning and see the natural, managed and constructed features in Canberra.

In Mathematics students will continue to learn Number and Algebra across the units in ability groupings. Geometry will be taught within our class groups.

Students will be exploring and extending their knowledge and understanding of place value. They will identify numbers on a number line. Students will also begin investigating number sequences and patterns. This will focus on counting by 2s, 5s and 10s. During Geometry, students will be investigating how to give directions from place to place. They will be exploring how to use specific language in order in an attempt to correctly direct others around the Gundaroo unit and the school.

The English Curriculum incorporates three interrelated strands which are:

- O Language (structures of English)
- O Literature (writing a letter)
- O Literacy (the ability to read and write)

In English, we integrate those strands in our daily teaching and learning of reading, spelling and writing.

Our writing focus this term will be writing to socialise. We will be investigating the structure of informal letter writing including the key components of an address, date, an opening salutation, the body of the letter and a signature. We will be learning how we can write letters to people they know and how to keep the information relevant to the person they are writing too. We will examine letter writing by using rich texts and authentic letter writing examples. Students will also have opportunities to undertake free writing.

Reading will continue to be a focus for Year 1 students this term with daily reading and associated activities. We will be selecting quality literature to explore in depth with links to other areas of the curriculum. Our selected texts will also help students develop their vocabulary, spelling and sentence structure, and provide opportunities to use a range of reading strategies. We will be focusing on the reading strategies of predicting, creating images and connecting to text.

This term in The Arts, students will be participating in regular dance lessons as we readily prepare for the Little Gig in December. Students will also partake in regular drama lessons and learn about dramatic elements such as improvisation, voice, movement and facial expression through a variety of games and activities. In the unit, students have opportunities to recognise and value the ways in which body language, facial expression and non-verbal vocalisation can be used to create their own improvisations. Students will also enact real and imagined events from their everyday experiences of playground interactions and also inspirations from class books.

The Junior Choir will continue for those students who wish to participate. They will be working hard this term to practise and refine songs to perform at assembly, as well as songs for the Little Gig.

This term, our well-being focus will be based on teaching the Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) expectations for many settings in our school. We focus on being a safe, respectful and responsible learners around the school.

Physical Education will occur daily for 30 minutes. This term the year 1 students will be practicing skills of throwing, catching and jumping. This will be done through cooperative games, gross motor and dance. It is important that students remember to bring a hat, drink bottle and wear comfortable footwear every day for PE lessons. Students will be reminded and commended on their sportsmanship and use of SHARE values throughout these lessons.

### Term 4 specialist programs

#### <u>Music</u>

Year 1 students explore music by listening, exploring sounds and making music to share with others. Students learn to listen to music and become aware of beat, rhythm, pitch, dynamics and expression. Students will have the opportunity to explore these concepts through a range of musical activities which incorporate singing, movement and percussion instruments.

Students in Year 1 will develop musicianship skills through playing a variety of tuned and untuned instruments including the glockenspiel and djembe drum. In term 4 students will focus on developing performance skills to demonstrate their learning.

#### <u>Japanese</u>

Students will continue building their Japanese vocabulary through a range of songs and games. They will continue to reinforce words for colours, numbers, food and days of the week using activities exploring the Japanese version of Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and "The Enormous Turnip" They will further explore Japanese writing systems and enhance their language learning by investigating Japanese culture,

events and traditions.

#### **Physical Education**

For students in Year 1 & 2, by participating in a variety of games and activities associated with cricket, students will develop a range of Fundamental Movement Skills such as throwing, catching, striking. Students will explore how we throw overarm, catching with two hands and striking a ball with a bat. Through the program, students will also explore how we can be respectful towards our teammates.

To end the term, students will participate in a range of games that will develop the Fundamental Movement skill of dodging as well as participating in games that require little or no equipment.

#### **Environmental Science**

This term students will learn about Ngunnawal people and focus on these big questions

- Wetlands are part of a large catchment system.
- Wetlands are systems involving biological and physical interactions.
- Everyone can be a wetlands steward, as an individual, or in partnership with others.
- Wetlands have environmental, social and economic values.
- Constructed urban wetlands are an important part of managing our water resources in a changing drying climate.

The Environment Centre will be continuing our recycling program and growing various plants and vegetables suitable for our local area.

#### 1 RJ Routines

Library - Monday

Gross Motor - Tuesday

Japanese - Thursday

Physical Education - Thursday

#### 1 NE Routines

Library - Monday

Gross Motor - Tuesday

Environmental Science - Thursday

Physical Education - Thursday

Japanese- Friday

#### **1 MO Routines**

Physical Education - Monday

Gross Motor - Tuesday

Library - Wednesday

Environmental Science - Thursday

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#### **1 RM Routines**

Library - Monday

Gross Motor - Tuesday

Japanese - Monday

Art/ Music - Thursday

#### **1 SM Routines**

Library - Monday

Gross Motor - Tuesday

Music - Thursday

Physical Education - Thursday

Japanese- Friday