

Dear parents and carers,

It has been an eventful first week back of school discussing holiday happenings in Canberra, Australia and overseas. We are pleased at how well students are settling back into school routines feeling refreshed and ready to learn. Students have started engaging in learning experiences already and we look forward to seeing their growth and development this term.

Ngunnawal Primary School is an inquiry-based learning school. This means that students questions are at the heart of the learning. Inquiry learning capitalises on students' natural curiosity and desire to explore their world by allowing children to make investigations based on their interests within topics drawn from the Australian Curriculum.

Inquiry learning is a way of thinking and learning; it is not a stand-alone subject but is integrated into other learning areas.

At 10am every day, students participate in 'Fruit Break'. Please ensure your child has a piece of fruit, vegetables or a selection of both that can be eaten within the 10-minute time frame. Some good food options include grapes, vegetable sticks, sliced apple, watermelon chunks or a banana.

Hats are required for all outside activities.

Please ensure that these and all personal items are clearly labelled.

Kind regards

Emma, Kunjal, Stephney, Mary and Tanya

REMINDER

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

Inquiry Learning

Students will consolidate their learning about representing and solving multiplication and division problems using a range of strategies including doubling, arrays, repeated addition and subtraction, and equal groups. They will explore the connection between multiplication and division. Students will engage in solving simple multiplication and division problems using a range of efficient mental and written strategies.

We will teach Number and Algebra across all 4 classes, catering to their needs and fractions is taught in individual classes.

Students will be learning how to divide collections and shapes into halves, quarters and eighths. They will have the opportunity to explore fractions using hands on materials.

This term, students will learn to read and tell the time on analog and digital clocks to the hour, half past, quarter past and quarter to. They will develop an understanding of reading calendars and finding the current date. Students will also have an opportunity to learn about the different months in a year and their link to the different seasons.

The English Curriculum incorporates three interrelated strands which are:

Language (structures of English)

Literature (stories, poems)

Literacy (the ability to read and write)

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

This term students will be focusing on the following strategies; connecting, comparing and inferring.

Students will be working within their targeted reading groups to develop their skills in sounding out or reading on when they come across unfamiliar words and are reading when the sentence doesn't make sense. Students are encouraged to read as much as possible, this includes their take home readers, books borrowed from the library and books that they have at home.

Spelling will continue to be taught in targeted groups focusing on sounds, specific spelling rules and strategies. It is great to see that students have been applying this to their daily writing and in some cases have been able to move on to the next strategy. Students will continue to practise new high frequency words each week from the Oxford word list.

Our writing focus this term is writing to socialise. We will be investigating the structure of letters, invitations and messages. We will be learning how we can seek and share information with others. We will examine texts to see how authors share and seek information with others. Students will also have opportunities to undertake free writing and will continue to work on forming their letters correctly.

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning is a comprehensive, integrated whole school approach to student wellbeing and behaviour. Students will be focussing on how to be Safe, Respectful and Responsible Learner around the school. This involves students looking at behaviour expectations in all areas of the school. Mindfulness will also take part after recess every day. Students will be involved in breathing exercises, sensory experience, guided imagery and movement. Studies have shown that mindfulness in the classroom improves emotional regulation, mood, empathy, confidence and self-esteem, coping and social skills, and their ability to pay attention and focus (Coholic & Eys, 2016). Teachers will be using *Smiling Mind* and *Calm* apps.

During creative arts this term, students will be exploring different elements and processes of arts subjects to make and represent artworks that represents ideas. Students will participate in directed drawing lessons as well as exposure to different art mediums. During dance, they will engage in a variety of dance programs such as Just Dance and Go Noodle. This term we will be practising for our Little Gig performance. Junior Choir will be available for all Year 2 students if they wish to attend Choir practise on Thursday afternoons.

Physical Education (PE) will occur daily for 30 minutes or more. This will include specialist PE sessions, cooperative games, gross motor and dance. During PE sessions students will be learning and practising gross motor skills such as; kicking, over/underarm, side galloping and leaping.

All classes will have opportunities throughout the week to access iPads, chrome books and interactive whiteboards to broaden their skills in information technology. These technologies will be incorporated across all key learning areas.

Term 4 Specialist Programs

Japanese

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.

Music

Year 2 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 2 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.

P.E

For Physical Education lessons in Term 4, students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will be participating in a cricket program. Students will participate in a range of activities that will help to develop skills such as throwing, catching as well as improving sportsmanship skills and teamwork. Many of these skills will be developed through a series of games and activities.

As the weather continues to get warmer it will be expected that all students will have a hat worn during Physical Education lessons. This is to ensure that each student is able to participate fully in each lesson. Can parents ensure that their child has a hat packed each day that is clearly labelled.

Environmental Science

This term students will learn about Nggunawal 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.

