



Parent Newsletter

Term 1 2021

1 /2 J

Welcome to the 2021 school year in 1/2 J. I hope that the students and parents of 1/2J have enjoyed a relaxing Christmas break and are feeling rested and are ready to begin an enjoyable school year. As always, it's a term that is full with engaging activities. I'll outline some of the things to be mindful of and you will be kept updated as the term progresses.

Library lessons will take place on Wednesday mornings with Mrs Punch. Please remember to send in library bags on this day so your child can borrow as this is a part of the week the students really love. Just note books need to be returned before students can borrow new ones. Mrs Laurie will have the class for Music lessons Wednesday mornings as well. Clubs will continue this year and will begin later on in the term. This gives the students the opportunity to build stronger relationships with the K-2 teachers while focusing on different content.

I will have Thursdays as my executive support and planning day. Ms Star-Webb will take the class each Thursday. She will cover Science, PDHPE and play some maths games with the children who don't attend Scripture on this day, as well as continuing the class reading and writing program.

Homework will be given out on Mondays and is to be handed in each Friday. This homework will reinforce the concepts that we are covering in class and also revise previous work. The format for homework has become more flexible and inclusive of the home routines of students. I individualise spelling lists based on how the students go in their spelling test each week so please ensure your child goes through the process of look, cover, write and check the words. After 2 weeks of homework I will begin to individualise the words to focus on. Some students may only have 3-5 words to learn while others may get extension words - taken from their writing to add to the list. The focus here is on being successful with the words they do need to learn and to cater for individual needs. Students are encouraged to complete at least two other activities of their choice. Homework will begin Week 2.



Students will need a display book or folder for homework to go home and be returned in. A home reader folder is also necessary - something that closes so books don't fall out and get damaged is a good idea. Home reading will start as soon as students bring in their folder - so please be quick in getting this in. Please make sure all is clearly labelled as well. Home Reading is an absolutely vital part of school life and has huge implications for your child's learning. We will have PM Readers online as well - however it may take me a week or two to get all this sorted and rolled over from last year. I will update you once this is ready and I will send home login details.

Prodigy Logins will have already come home. Feel free to access this program at home - it reinforces maths concepts but even more importantly - the kids love it and enjoy the games component of this application. So, have fun with it!

Scripture will begin in week four this term. There are two scripture groups offered to the students. Combined and Catholic. Lessons are for 30 minutes each Thursday. Students not attending will be playing math games with Ms Star-Webb. If you need to make changes to your students nominated scripture group please message me on dojo or ring the office.

Cudgen PS has a "no hat, play in the shade" policy. Students are restricted to the COLA area if they don't bring a hat. Please ensure your child brings a labelled hat for outdoor play/ sport (no caps or beanies please).

Please supply your child daily with some fruit or vegetables for fruit break. Not only does this promote healthy eating but also provides good brain food. Also ensure that your child has enough food in their lunchbox for recess and lunch to assist their learning and growth.

It is important to label your child's bag, lunch box, drink bottle, hats and clothing. This will enable easy identification. There is a lost property basket in the room next to our classroom. Remind your child that this is a place that they can check for their belongings.

ClassDojo will be utilised in the classroom as a communication tool. As we have other reward systems in place the focus of the ClassDojo will not be the points. ClassDojo will be utilised mainly as a communication method. I will be able to post class photos, information and work samples, as well as communicating with individual parents/carers. Please keep an eye on Dojo frequently as I use it a lot to communicate what learning we are engaged in, as well as share our work and our successes.



Children can access school equipment obviously, but in terms of looking after their own equipment and learning to be responsible - a small pencil case with some coloured pencils, lead pencils, glue stick and pencil sharpener is also handy. Students can leave a packet of tissues under their desks for special times as well.

Paint shirts are really important - we want to protect our beautiful uniforms. I can get their shirts from last year - but believe me they are pretty crusty and a fresh one might be nice.

It would also be greatly appreciated if a box of tissues, and/or some coloured pens/textas for shared use could be brought in to supplement our class resources for this term. I would also really appreciate it if each child could bring in a glue stick, eraser and a sharpener (with reservoir for catching shavings) to add to our tool caddies on our desk. This stuff is very consumable and we go through heaps of it so please send these in if possible. Please - ask your learner to give these to me so I can share win bins and CCs as an acknowledgement for contributing to our class resource set.

Things will pop up throughout the term so continue to check the school newsletters and dojo to keep updated.

I hope you find this information helpful. I am looking forward to working with you all to support your child's learning. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to speak to me or arrange a meeting. Let's have a great year.

Cheers
Linda Jouliau