

## **Team 2 Newsletter**

**Term 2 2010**

**Important dates to remember this Term:**

**Week 2-**Hearing & Vision testing

**Week 3-4<sup>th</sup>** May School Union Meeting

-5<sup>th</sup> Parent/Teacher interviews

**Week 4-19<sup>th</sup>** May House Captains Mufti Day (gold coin donation)

**Week 5- 24<sup>th</sup>** May Book Fair

-25<sup>th</sup> May UNSW Computer Test

**Week 8-8<sup>th</sup>** June Queens Birthday

-9<sup>th</sup> June UNSW Science Test

-10<sup>th</sup> June Cake Stall

**Week 10- 22<sup>nd</sup>** June UNSW Spelling Test

-25<sup>th</sup> June Disco

**Week 11-28<sup>th</sup>** June Literacy reports out

2<sup>nd</sup> July last day of term (finishing at 3pm)

**Curriculum Overviews for the term are as follows:**

### **English:**

Our writing focus this Term is Reports, where we will look at features that are important when writing a report. This term's writing will be moderated and levelled for the end of term literacy report. Handwriting will have an ongoing focus on size, shape, slope and linking within class. Spelling will focus on our new programme based on identifying the gaps in student's skills and knowledge which underpins written language. Home work activities will still have a chunk base and wordstudy skill attached to it as reinforcement. Oral and visual language will revolve around discussions, charts and graphic organisers to display a lot of the students Inquiry topic

### **Maths:**

Our first topic this term is Geometry. We will be looking at student knowledge of the names and attributes of 2D and 3D shapes as well as using these shapes to translate, reflect or rotate an object and to recognise its symmetry.

Our Numeracy base is Multiplication and Division. Students will work at their current stage to focus on strategies. We will be covering times table knowledge regularly this term.

### **Reading:**

We are still focussing on non-fiction text using key words and phrases to help with guided reading groups. Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) and varied reading skill activities will be included as independent work for students.

### **PE/Fitness/Sport:**

This term our primary focus is large ball activities with some small ball activities included. These relate to skills needed for sports students are involved in eg: Netball, Rugby, Soccer and Tennis. Our Sports programme for the term includes minor games that practice associated skills, Tapuae, 4-Goal Soccer, Rippa Rugby and "Kings and Queens" Tennis. Our fitness is based on endurance and quick reaction activities to sit alongside Sports and PE eg: 12 minute run, shuttle running, Corner Ball, "Moas & Hunters" (the last two games are large ball reaction games).

**The Arts:**

This term we will participate in weekly singing at our team assemblies. Our visual art will include the Calendar Art for parents to buy later in the year and construction alongside Inquiry as required.

**Inquiry:**

Our Inquiry this term is Technology / Science based. We are looking at a **Knowledge** context. Our **Key Competency** is “Thinking” with the **Value** of Dedication. Our **Forward focus** is Globalisation. This is going to allow classes to move in many directions from student interest based around what students can find out about a Technological or Science aspect. Students may need construction material from home as well as information access as their interest takes them. There should be some interesting hands on activities this term.

**ICT:**

Ms Corsan will be working in the computer suite to help in their inquiry process and skills they may need as a result.

**Homework:**

Homework will be similar to last term. We expect half an hour a night. We have a wide differentiation in ability within the team so if you are experiencing any problems please see your child’s class teacher to address them. A note in the homework book also allows us to know how you and your child are coping. We have listened and discussed feedback about the marking of home work we received last term. Some families liked last years option where we graded content and presentation as this gave the child some challenge and extension. Others felt removing this allowed them to take the pressure off. As you will appreciate, this is an issue that differs depending on family and child expectation and belief. Moving into the senior school is a change, and regularity of home work and independence is our primary goal. We would like your opinions across the team about the homework though, so it can be considered. If you wish to e- mail your response then the class teacher’s address is listed below. We look forward to a busy and productive term.

Regards

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