Year 1/2 2014

A guide to our classroom!
Our Aim

Throughout this year, our focus is to develop each child’s independence. Slowly, we want to move them away from teacher-directed activities and encourage them to take risks and make their own decisions. We want them to take responsibility for what they learn and how they learn it. We want them to encourage and support each other along the way.
Our rules

We are focusing on creating a productive working environment within the classroom. As well as the school’s Dignity and Respect charter, we have 4 class “Do” rules, which the students created themselves.

*DO be a good friend
*DO listen to everybody
*DO a good job every day
*DO keep the classroom tidy
This is an online class management system, where each child is able to earn points for targeted behaviours (eg. helping others, being on task) or lose points for not doing the right thing (eg. being rude, wasting time). The points are visible on the white board each day. On Fridays, the number of points each child has corresponds to the number of raffle tickets they have in the weekly prize draw.
Dojo reports

We are able to see how the class is progressing on a weekly basis, both as a whole class group and by individual students. If you wish to see your own child’s progress, we can issue you with a parent code so that you can log in at home.
In the classroom...

**Literacy**
- Guided reading
- Spelling & Grammar
- Text types
- Handwriting
- Writing

**Numeracy**
- Number & Algebra
- Measurement & Geometry
- Statistics & Probability

**HSIE**
This is our focus unit for the term. In term 1, our unit is “Special Days”.

**Science**
Savanna is teaching this KLA. This term’s unit is “Schoolyard Safari”.

**PDHPE**
This is a mixture of weekly sport and fitness activities, as well as health lessons. Life Education will be held later this term.

**Creative Arts**
We love seeing the children express themselves creatively. Art lessons are completed regularly, by both teachers.
Year 1/2 has a class page and a blog as part of the school website. The class page is a “show off” space, where we can highlight fabulous work the students do! The blog is more of a communication tool for parents - please visit both often and feel free to leave us a comment!
Twitter and Kidblog

We use our blog in reading groups, but also encourage the students to post comments in their own time. We are focusing on expressing quality ideas. If your child is using the blog at home, please resist the temptation to write for them - write with them instead!

www.kidblog.org/mops

This is our way of connecting our class to the world outside. We are now corresponding with a year 1/2 class in Canada, as well as being followed by other schools around the world. If you would like to send us a tweet, please send the message to the whole class, rather than an individual student. We tweet about our day every afternoon.

https://twitter.com/ClassPencil
Homework

This is set by Savanna and handed out in class on Monday. It is collected and marked by Susie on Friday. If your child is unable to complete some or all of their homework, please send a note.

We are conscious of everybody’s busy lives, so aim to set homework that isn’t too taxing, but helps to establish a regular routine. The main focus of homework will be nightly home reading, but other short activities will also be set.
Meeting with us

We both have RFF on Tuesdays from 12.50-1.50. If you want to catch us both in school hours, that is the best time. After school, the best days to do this would be Tuesday or Wednesday, but we can organise an appointment at other times. Please just send in a note.

Parent-Teacher interviews will be held later this term.
Can You Help?

We are in need of some parent helpers who could change the children’s readers first thing in the morning. We’d also love some “one-off” help in covering work books with paper and contact. The best time to do this would be in the afternoons after recess, any day except Thursday.
Lastly...

We are here to support your children and help them to enjoy a productive year. Chat to your child regularly and PLEASE feel free to communicate with us if you feel that there is anything we need to know!

We are looking forward to a fun year!

Susie & Savanna