Information Night
Kirwan State School
Year 1A


Students participate in specialist lessons weekly.

Specialist Timetable

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R.E</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.E</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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ENGLISH
The Australian Curriculum is used when planning our English units.
Focus for the first 5 weeks is “exploring emotion” in picture books. Children will listen to, read, view and interpret written picture books, including stories from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and present a short oral talk on a character from a picture book.

Reading
Home readers are sent home daily Monday – Thursday for children to practise their reading skills. Reading is very crucial in these early years of learning. To ensure that your child’s reading improves, it is important to read on a daily basis at home and at school. The more types of text your child is able to read the better. Your child will participate in a range of reading activities at school. On Monday and Wednesday mornings I have two other people in the room to assist with reading groups (Guided Reading). We complete a range of activities to build students reading fluency and comprehension skills. Children will also participate in Shared Reading activities and develop Independent Reading skills throughout the year.

Spelling
Learning spelling words plays an important role in assisting your child to read and write. Students are still concentrating on sight words.

How can I help my child with reading?

- Read to your child whenever you can. Now and again ask a few ‘why?’ questions about the story as you read.
- Help your child to tell stories from pictures in the book.
- Talk about the characters, plots and settings of stories.
- Discuss information found in factual books.
- Encourage your child to write messages for different family members.
- Recognise letters on car number plates.
- Watch television and talk about it with your child.
- Encourage your child to look at the title and cover of a book and predict what it may be about.
- Encourage your child to tell the story from the pictures in the book.
- Enrol your child in the local library: Choose books together.
- Talk about reading the newspaper, magazines and books.
- Encourage your child to try and write his/her own name in books he/she owns.
- Read books of children’s poetry with your child.
which are the most common words used in the English language. Students are expected to be able to spell and recognise words from list one to eighteen. Children are asked to practise saying their sight words at home. Please remember if your child would like to learn how to spell their sight words they may also do this at home using the spelling grid activities in your child’s homework book.  

Lem phonics will be taught in class starting week 5. I will send a list home when we start learning Lem words so children can practise how to read and spell these words at home.

Handwriting
Children use their handwriting books weekly to improve their writing style. Not all children will have perfect writing but our aim at school is for it to be legible and used effectively in upper school. At the start of year 1 student’s will be using ‘Queensland Beginner’s Alphabet’ or printing. Towards the middle of year 2, children change their printing style slightly, in preparation for learning cursive writing. Your child will then learn how to use entries and exits and will soon start to use ‘Old Cursive’.

MATHEMATICS
The Australian Curriculum is used when planning our Mathematics units.

- We will investigate such topics as Number and Place Value, Patterns and Algebra, Units of Measure, Location and Transformations.
- Sums: The usual method for setting out the various operations at this year level is: 
  \[
  \begin{array}{c}
  3 \\
  + \\
  4
  \end{array}
  \]

- Number work involves whole numbers to and from 100.
- We participate in whole class maths lessons as well as maths rotations.

SCIENCE
We use the Australian Curriculum to plan our Science units.

Unit we are covering this term: Living Adventure

This term in Science we are investigating living things. Students will make links between external features of living things and the environment where they are found. They explore a range of habitats and consider the
differences between healthy and unhealthy habitats. Students predict how change to habitats can affect how the needs of living things are met.

**THE ARTS**

Children will participate in all four programs throughout the year.

- **Music** program is conducted by our music specialist, Mrs Ransom. Children attend 1 x 30 minute lesson per week.
- **Visual Art** is an integrated part of the Curriculum which investigates Line, Shape, Colour, Tone and Texture.
- **Dance** and **Drama**

**P.E**

- The physical education teacher is Mrs Talbot.
- Children attend P.E for 30 minutes a week.

**LIBRARY**

- Once a week, on Thursday, the children will attend a library lesson and can borrow books for the week. These need to be returned each Thursday. Our Librarian is Mr Colwell.

**REPORTING TO PARENTS**

- Written reports are sent home at the end of each Semester (2 times per year).
- Parent Teacher Interviews are conducted at the start of Term Two.
- If you wish to discuss your child’s progress, please feel free to make an appointment.

**HOMEWORK**

Homework was sent home at the beginning of Week Two. A note about homework will be in your child’s homework folder. This term we are mostly focusing on spelling and reading. It is essential that your child practise their spelling words each night and read a few pages from a home reader to ensure success. Homework will be handed out on a Monday and is to be returned to school on Friday. Please fill in the reading log book each night.

**COMMUNICATION**

At the back of your child’s homework book you will see a communication slip. This slip will be filled in on a Friday so you will be able to see the following Monday how your child went with their spelling test and number fact test. You will also see a behaviour comments about their week at school and a homework comment. I thought this might be a nice way to let you know how your child is going at school. Please feel free to write in the back any messages or comments for me about your child and their progress.

**BEHAVIOUR**

All students are already aware of the school rules. These rules are to be safe, respectful and responsible in the classroom and in the playground. Students receive Gotcha’s from teachers and ancillary staff when they display this behaviour. In the Year 1A classroom we have a rewards system where students aim to fill a foam
cup full or pom poms by the end of the week so they can receive free time or Art and Craft. Students may also lose pom poms for inappropriate behaviour. At the start of the term we decided on some consequences for inappropriate behaviour. Therefore students are responsible for choosing an appropriate consequence for their behaviour.

BEFORE SCHOOL
Children are to wait/sit at the Under Covered Area until 8.30am. This area is supervised from 8.15 -8.30 am. Children may then come to the classroom at 8.30 to get ready for the day. I ask that children:

1. Put their lunchboxes in the fridge.
2. Bag on the port rack.
3. Return and borrow home readers.
4. Sharpen 2 led pencils before school starts and
5. Ensure they have 3 passes on their desk.

Once they have completed their jobs they must then write their name in the sign in book. Children will then have a few minutes of free time before the bell goes.

LUNCHES
Children need a healthy snack each day as we have a small snack at 10am. They are also encouraged to bring a water bottle in to put on their desk. We have a fridge in the classroom where children can put their lunchboxes to remain cold during the day.

TUCKSHOP
Children must place their tuckshop order in by 9am. Please no orders for friends. If children are bringing money to school to spend at lunchtime, they must leave it with a teacher. Please make sure they do not carry large amounts of money in their school bag.

PUNCTUALITY
The School day starts at 8:50 am and finishes at 2:50pm. Please endeavour to have your child in the classroom before the bell. Children arriving after 9am will be marked late on the roll.

ABSENTEEISM
In the interests of safety, we require parents to phone or contact the school to advise of a child’s absence. Notes may also be sent.

Please come in and see me at any time to discuss anything that may be concerning you or to find out about your child’s progress.

Thanks for your time!

Miss Carolyn Hallam
Year 1A Teacher