



**IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152**  
**GRADE 2 NEWSLETTER**  
**TERM 3**

July, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back students and families. We hope you have had an enjoyable and restful break with your family. We also welcome Mrs Tenille Cisternas to Grade 2. She will be teaching 2SD while Mr Dundas is on long service leave. It has been great to see the children settle back into learning so quickly and with such positive attitudes. We look forward to another exciting and productive term.

At the beginning of each term you will receive a Grade 2 newsletter to keep you informed about special events and activities within the Grade 2 area and how you can help your child at home. The whole school newsletter will be sent home on **Wednesdays**, on a fortnightly basis, with the eldest child in the family. Please read these newsletters carefully as they contain valuable and important information.

## **CURRICULUM**

### **Literacy**

In **Reading** students will focus on reading different text types, including both factual and fiction texts. They will be involved in reading activities that focus on comprehension (gaining an understanding of what they have been reading) and improving their reading skills and their reading 'stamina.' During this daily program children are reading books that are appropriate to their reading ability for longer periods of time. In **Writing** children will learn about different text types such as how to write simple factual reports and procedures (how-to texts). They will continue to use their Writers' Notebooks, where students will explore and develop ideas for writing. There will also be a focus on students rereading their own work to avoid simple spelling and punctuation errors. Our **Spelling** focus will be extending word knowledge and different sounds and letter patterns found in words. An emphasis on developing the children's handwriting and spelling skills will continue throughout the term.

You can continue to support the skills your child learns in class by:

- Supervising home reading on a daily basis.
- Listening to your child read each night and spending time reading *to* your child.
- Asking your child questions about what he/she has read to further develop comprehension.
- Encouraging your child to summarise what he/she has read.
- Practising correct letter formation in handwriting with your child.
- Encouraging your child to write about a variety of topics.
- Playing snap, using the high frequency words from your child's home reading diary.
- Ensuring that your child has a quiet place to complete set homework activities.

### **Numeracy**

This term children will be continuing to build on their mathematical knowledge and skills through open-ended and practical learning experiences. Children will particularly focus on number topics including counting, number patterns, place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and money. Students will also participate in measurement investigations and continue to learn about reading clocks and using calendars. We will be revising probability vocabulary and learning about different types of data and graphs.

You can continue to support your child's skill development by:

- Counting by 2s, 5s and 10s from various starting points, as far as your child can go.
- Practising basic addition and subtraction problems.
- Making and recognising number patterns.
- Identifying the value of coins and notes.
- Ensuring that your child knows all of the months of the year in the correct order.
- Using a calendar to identify the date and determine the number of days in each month.
- Discussing different addition and subtraction problems and relating them to situations involving money e.g. *"I bought a bag of apples for \$3.00 and a bunch of bananas for \$2.00. How much money did I spend altogether? If I paid for those items using a \$20.00 note, how much change would I receive?"*

### **Integrated Studies**

Our theme for Term 3 is **'Health and Safety'**. The children will be given opportunities to explore the topics of cyber safety, drug (medicine) education and emergency situations in more detail. Students will develop an awareness of how to use technology safely, an understanding of who can help them in different situations and when it is appropriate to make an emergency phone call to 000. They will also learn about signs of feeling unwell and whether medicines or non-medicines could help them to feel better. A key focus for this unit is for students to develop their critical thinking skills and knowledge about how to respond appropriately if they feel unwell or unsafe. The **Life Education** program will provide additional learning experiences within this **'Health and Safety'** unit.

#### **Getting Ready In Numeracy (GRIN Extension Program)**

This semester approximately twenty Grade 2 students will be involved in higher level activities to increase their skills and confidence in numeracy. The program is called **Getting Ready In Numeracy**. The students will know the program as GRIN. Parents of these children have received letters informing them of their participation.

This program helps children perform at a higher level in their maths learning in the classroom. The students will be involved in two additional sessions per week to extend them during the maths lessons in their classroom. They will be working with Mrs Alicia McPherson. The results from previous Grade 2 GRIN programs in our school have shown that students achieve higher levels of skills and confidence.

Should you have any queries please contact Mrs Alicia McPherson or me at school on ☎ 9741 2803.

**Dijana Pateras, GRIN Co-ordinator**

### **LIFE EDUCATION**

This term Life Education Australia will be visiting our school. The Life Education Program is a mobile classroom staffed by a specially trained teacher. The Life Education van will be visiting our school from Monday, August 28 to Thursday, September 14. Each Grade 2 class will attend the Life Education van to participate in 'Safety Rules'. The children will discuss issues and engage in activities about safe and unsafe situations and people that can help us. The cost of this session is \$10 per child or \$20 per family.

### **PROGRAM ACHIEVE 'YOU CAN DO IT'**



This term students will learn about the very important concepts of **Persistence** and **Organisation** as part of our Program Achieve social skills program. **Persistence** means sticking to a job until it is completed, even if it is difficult or boring. It is the ability to work hard and not give up to achieve results. Students will learn about the importance of staying motivated and engaged in their school work so that they can achieve academic goals. **Organisation** means being prepared and on time. Students will learn about strategies to assist with setting goals and managing their time.

## LIBRARY



Please send a library bag to school for borrowing sessions from our school library. Each student is expected to borrow a book from the library on a **fortnightly** basis. During the library sessions the students are introduced to new stories and learn how to recognise some popular authors and illustrators. We hope to promote a love and enjoyment of reading. If your child does not have a library bag, a reusable supermarket bag would be suitable.

***Grades 2s borrowing day is on a Friday. Please ensure that children return their library books by Thursday.***

## HOME READING



We ask you to ensure that your child's *take home reading book* is read every day under your guidance and supervision and that the reading diary is signed and returned to school every day. Encourage and celebrate all of your child's efforts and ask them questions about each book they bring home to ensure that they understand what they have read. Children should also be practising the high frequency words that are included in their diary. Please encourage your child to read these regularly and have a go at spelling unknown words from the list as well.

## HOMEWORK

Homework will continue to be sent home each **Monday** and is to be completed and returned to school on **Thursday**. We will have discussed and explained the homework content in class with the children at school before it is sent home. We design revision activities and it is important that you encourage your child to undertake them each week so that the skills they have learned in class are reinforced. Please ensure that your child writes his/her name on their homework sheet before they return it.

## PUNCTUALITY & ATTENDANCE

School commences at 8.50 each morning. Children who are late to school are required to obtain a late pass from the office. If your child is absent from school, a signed note is required when they return to school to explain their absence. Continued absences from school will mean that your child will miss out on valuable learning experiences necessary for his/her learning progress. Your vigilance in ensuring that your child attends school every day and arrives before 8.45 a.m. is greatly appreciated.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

As the weather becomes cooler we ask children to wear warmer winter clothing. Please encourage your child to bring his/her jacket/coat to school to wear outside on colder days. Please note that jacket/coats are for outside only and children will be asked to remove them inside the classrooms. Please remember that when inside, children are to be wearing correct uniform only. Please ensure that all school uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name so that any lost/misplaced item can be returned.

## FRUIT AND WATER

Consuming water and fruit are great ways to get the brain working! We encourage every child to have a bottle of plain water at their table that they can drink throughout the day. **No cordial or juice please.** *Healthy lunches and snacks are also encouraged.*



## VIP PROGRAM

The **Very Important Person** program will continue to run throughout this term and you will be provided with more information when it is your child's turn. This program continues to be very successful. Our students proudly share information about themselves, their family and special items from home. The VIP will be involved in various activities throughout the week, which provides an opportunity for the children to learn different things about each other.

## CLASSROOM HELPERS

Many thanks to those parents who have helped the teachers and children in the Grade 2 area in a variety of ways already this year. Your assistance is greatly appreciated and we look forward to working with you for the remainder of the school year.

## SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Grade 2 students will be learning about this term in our specialist areas.

### Visual Arts

Famous artists from history will inspire the students' artwork this term. Students will be introduced to a range of artists such as Van Gogh and Henry Matisse. They will experiment with a range of materials as stipulated in the Victorian Curriculum for Visual Arts, including paint, paper and drawing to create works inspired by the Art Movements the artists belonged to. Students will view and discuss some artwork by Van Gogh before recreating his famous **Sunflower** and **Starry Night** art works. Students are encouraged to discuss how their art works are made and are invited to view others during the lessons, another requirement of the Victorian Curriculum for the Visual Arts.

### Performing Arts

This term Grade 2 students will focus on pitch and melody. They will rehearse and perform songs and instrumental music they have learnt as stipulated in the Victorian Curriculum for music. This will include singing as well as playing marimbas and xylophones. Students will learn how to correctly hold a beater and will play along to a variety of songs. They will also plan and take photos to tell a joke. Choosing a location and shot type, students will need to use their face and body to create expressive photos. These photos will then be used in computer lessons to create a comic strip. To enhance student engagement lessons will continue to include the Music Room program and use of iPads.

### Physical Education (Phys. Ed)

To begin Term 3 students will continue working on more advanced ball skills to help develop co-ordination and ball control. Students will be learning the specific skills for newcomb, a modified version of volleyball and will use these in competitive game play to assist them in identifying rules and fair play when participating in physical activities as stipulated in the Victorian Curriculum. During the middle of the term students will participate in modified athletics activities including hurdles, long jump, modified high jump, relay and sprints. Students will then learn frisbee skills with the focus on throwing and catching.

### Digital Technologies (I.C.T)

Grade 2 students will begin Term 3 by completing their exciting work on the **'Emotions Slideshows'**. They have taken their photographs, composed their music and have been busy putting these together in iMovie. Some students have also used the green screen technique to add different backgrounds to their photos. We will then work on some simple surveys. In accordance with the Victorian Curriculum for Digital Technologies, students will collect data from their class on interesting topics such as favourite foods or pets and graph the results using KidPix and 2Graph software programs. Time permitting, the students will finish the term working on a Performing Arts/Digital Technologies project called the 'Comic Strip Joke.' This project involves the students selecting and telling a joke in the form of a comic strip. To do this they will take a series of photographs and use Comic Life to present the joke using interesting design features and speech bubbles.



### Spanish Language

¡Hola a todos! In Term 3 the Grade 2 Spanish Club students will continue to extend their Spanish vocabulary by learning about the **'The Seasons'**. The students will enjoy dressing up for the different seasons and learning the Spanish words for particular clothing such as hat and coat. We will also be learning a new Spanish poem about the **'The Seasons'**. Please encourage your child to practise their poem at home. ¡Adios!



**APRIL ANAPLIOTIS, TENILLE CISTERNAS, CAITLIN CLANCY (GRADE LEADER),  
SIMON DUNDAS, LAUREN EWEN, & TAMARA KING  
GRADE 2 TEACHERS**