Year One
Newsletter
Week 9 – Friday 20th June, 2014

What’s Coming Up

Parent/Teacher interviews – Monday 23rd June
End of term concert and Nicole’s farewell – Wednesday 25th June
No rotations (but still have library) – Wednesday 25th June
Grade 1 reward day – Thursday 26th June
End of term and Haley’s farewell – Friday 27th June

What we are learning in Literacy

• In our writing workshops, we are still learning about Narratives. We have completed our ‘organising phase’ and are now in our ‘editing’ and ‘publishing phase’ where students are producing their own narratives as a book.

• During ‘read to self’ students have been using ‘story maps’ to identify characters, setting, problem, resolution and heart from their narratives. The ‘heart’ of the story is the message that the author is trying to express.

Grade 1’s have been doing an incredible job practising their weekly spelling words. There are many different and fun ways for your child to practice their spelling list. In each newsletter we will post a new spelling activity to try at home.

This week’s activity:

Draw and colour a picture. Hide your spelling words inside your picture. Show your picture to someone and see if they can find your hidden words!
What we are learning in Numeracy

- We have been focusing on addition and subtraction and the strategies that assist us in solving simple problems such as basic number facts, skip counting, counting on and doubles.
- We have completed our exploration of 2D and 3D shapes. Through hands on activities, we identified, described, illustrated, and made 2D and 3D shapes as well as discussed their properties (i.e. how many faces does a cube have? What shape makes up a cube?).
- Students benefit greatly from working with different teachers. As part of our weekly rotations on Wednesday, grade 1’s participate in a problem solving session with Haley. Hayden will be continuing these lessons in Haley’s place. Every Thursday, grade 1A and 1B have been alternating between art and maths. Each fortnight, students work in number (counting, addition, subtraction and strategies) with Pauleen.

A note about Take-Home-Book

The books that children take home should be easy for them to read and their number level helps them to choose a book. We conference with the children during daily reading time and endeavour to complete a reading conference with each child at least once a month. When we conference with the children we know through their results which level they are up to. If your child chooses a book which is too difficult the experience is not as positive for them. Sometimes they can read the book but their understanding will not be as good. Please trust us to know what books are suitable for them. If your child makes a leap in ability, let us know and we can do an extra conference but please don’t tell your children to put themselves up a level. Library books and other reading materials do not need to be “just right”. These books are to share and to challenge and to inspire.

Nightly reading books need to be “just right” books.
Parent/Teacher Interviews

We will be conducting Parent/Teacher interviews on Monday the 23rd of June. We would love to see as many of you as possible on this day. If you are unable to attend, please make an alternative time to see us to discuss your child’s progress. We look forward to seeing you on Monday!

Donations

We would greatly appreciate donations of tissues and little gifts for our prize boxes. If you could please send these items along next term that would be wonderful!

Timetable

Next term we will see changes to our weekly timetable. Karen and Megan will be shifting their days teaching in the classroom. It will be as follows:

Karen: Monday – Wednesday
Megan – Thursday – Friday

More information regarding the timetable will be released at the beginning of next term!

Grade 1 reward day!

Next Thursday (26th June) the grade 1’s will be having their reward day. 1A filled their sticker chart and 1B’s ‘oodles of noodles’ jar is full! We will be having a movie, popcorn and activity day to celebrate a great first semester’s work!

We hope you all have a safe and happy break!