



DISCOVERY TERM 1 NEWSLETTER - 2023

February, 2023

Welcome back Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Term 1, 2023. We are looking forward to an exciting year in Discovery. Our Community Walk was a huge success, with our Grade 1 and 2 students exploring our local community.

SPECIALISTS

	AUSLAN	PE	ART	MUSIC
DA	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Thursday
DB	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday
DC	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday
DD	Wednesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Friday
DE	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Friday
DF	Tuesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Friday

Library: DA, DB, DC, DD and DF have Library on Monday. DE have Library on Tuesday.

COMMUNITY WALK

On Monday 13 February, 2023 we went on an excursion to explore our local community in Diamond Creek. We will follow up the excursion with a visit from the CFA on Friday 24 February, 2023 where we will learn about how the CFA help our local community and beyond.

HOME READING

Your child will bring home three (3) readers and a reader log in the week beginning 13 February, 2023. Your teacher will advise what day the class will change their readers on a weekly basis. Please ensure that your child brings their blue book bag and three (3) readers to school **every day**. Your child will keep their readers for one week and we encourage them to read the same text multiple times. The first time your child reads a text they will decode any unknown words. On day two (2) they will re-read with less decoding and by day three (3) they will work on improving their fluency and they will be more familiar with the text.

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

This term during our Inquiry Unit we will be creating a model of our local community. If you are able to assist with donations of the following materials it would be greatly appreciated.

- Empty cardboard boxes e.g.: Cereal, muesli bars etc. Please no toilet rolls.

We would also appreciate donations of much needed class supplies.

- Tissues, paper towel;
- Antibacterial wipes.

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT IN THE CLASSROOM DURING TERM 1

READING	WRITING	CATCH MATHS	INQUIRY
<p>Our lessons are based on our CAFÉ Program which assists with comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary.</p> <p>The CAFE Program breaks each of these components into significant strategies and our lessons support each approach.</p> <p>We will be continuing to have individual student conferences and/or guided reading groups during these lessons.</p> <p>This term, the students will be furthering their skills in the four main components of CAFE as mentioned above. We will be revisiting the accuracy strategies and consolidating the CAFÉ characters that help us decode unknown words, such as Lips the Fish, Chunky Monkey, Stretchy Snake, Eagle Eye and Skippy the Frog. The students will also be enjoying their class novel 'Flat Stanley' which will be read aloud to them by their teacher during daily Reading sessions.</p>	<p>The Discovery students will be focusing on writing personal/event recounts, responses and retelling events. We will spend some time revising all of these writing genres.</p> <p>Our daily writing sessions are always complemented by our school-wide phonemic spelling program, Sound Waves, with two smaller stand-alone spelling sessions during the course of the week.</p> <p>Students participate in handwriting sessions multiple times during the week, with a focus on correct size, shape and formation of letters and correct pencil grip when writing.</p>	<p>This term we will cover Patterns, Skip Counting, Place Value, Addition and Subtraction.</p> <p>The school-wide CATCH Maths program follows the same weekly focus throughout the school.</p> <p>Each Monday and Wednesday the students are involved in a Challenging Task related to the week's Maths focus.</p> <p>On Tuesdays, students are involved in sessions that develop their fluency and reasoning skills of that week's Maths focus. In Discovery this will almost always involve the use of concrete materials.</p> <p>Each Thursday's session will continue to explore the week's focus with a range of hands on materials, such as counters, MAB, Unifix or dice.</p> <p>Our weekly Maths lessons conclude on Friday with an engaging session, with fun and interactive games provided related to the week's focus.</p> <p>Each of the week's Maths sessions give students a chance to develop their Maths skills and knowledge, while further developing their skills of problem solving, resilience, curiosity and responsible risk taking.</p>	<p>During Term 1 your child will learn about our local community. The aim of the unit is for students to understand what services are available in their community and the way the community has been designed. Students will be introduced to maps and how they help to navigate a community. They also look into how they can make their community more sustainable. In week 4 we have been on our excursion to explore the local community of Diamond Creek and learn about the services within our community.</p> <p>Students will be creating a model of Diamond Creek, showing different parts of the community.</p>

DATES TO REMEMBER

February	March	April
Monday 13 – Community Walk Excursion Tuesday 14 - 3 Way Conferences Monday 27 – Info Night	Monday 13 – Labour Day Public Holiday Thursday 30 – Kaboom Sports Evening	Thursday 6 – Last Day of Term 1

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to schedule a time to see your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Nat, Cathryn, Alanah, Steph, Georgie, Matt and Michelle
 Discovery Teachers