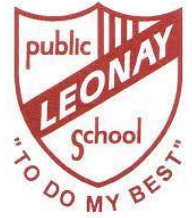




Leonay Public School



Stage 1 Newsletter
Term 1, 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2023 school year! We hope it will be a successful year where we can work together to give your child the very best education. We have many exciting things happening this year. We will send out these newsletters each term so that you have all the relevant information for your child. I would like to introduce you to the teaching staff of Stage 1.

* **Year 1:** Mrs Fiona Connelly -Term 1-(Ms Rothwell continuing in Relieving Principal Position Term 1)

* **Year 2:** Miss Kelsee Bruce

* **Stage 1 Assistant Principals for Term 1:** Mrs Danielle Demuth (Mon – Wed), Mrs Natalie Devine (Thurs, Fri)

Uniform: As the year begins, it is extremely important to ensure that all students have the correct uniform. Please make sure that all students have black shoes (with no other colours on them and black laces). As part of this, students need to wear grey or white socks, not multi-coloured. Bike shorts are not part of the uniform for girls unless they are worn under the tunic, shorts or skorts. Leonay PS hats must be worn at all times. These are available to purchase from the office anytime. Students who do not have a hat will be on hard surfaces undercover during play times. Wearing the correct uniform is a way of showing pride in our school.

Leo Legend: In order to recognise safe, respectful behaviour on the playground, we have initiated Leo Legend tokens. These tokens will be given to students who teachers see on the playground using STAND, playing safely and interacting with others respectfully. At each assembly all token holders will have the opportunity to win a \$2 canteen voucher.

Compass: Please continually check your Compass App for messages, notes and upcoming events.

'All About Me' form: This is to help the teachers get to know your child. Please ensure that these are returned to your child's teacher as soon as you can.

Yours in Education,

Mrs Connelly, Miss Bruce, Mrs Demuth and Mrs Devine

Up Coming Events

School Photos: Tuesday 28 February

Easter Hat Parade: Thursday 6 April

Important Weekly Events

Library Day –Library is an important chance for children to explore a variety of texts and foster a love of reading. It is important for students to use this valuable resource every week to strengthen their ever-growing reading skills. Please ensure that your child returns their books weekly, if they have not finished reading them, they can always reborrow.

1F Library Day: Tuesday

2B Library Day: Tuesday

Sport Day – This will continue to be Tuesday each week. Your child will need to wear sport uniform and sport shoes. They will also need their hat and water bottle.

The Importance of Homework

To keep homework purposeful and enjoyable for everyone, we have made some small changes to homework for Term 1. Please remember, homework is provided but not expected. We understand that afternoons are busy for everyone, so only complete what is manageable.

1. Speaking and Listening – Speaking and Listening this term will have a variety of activities to complete throughout the term. The note for Year 1 will come home in Week 4.
2. Home Reading – Home reading will start in Week 6. We will continue changing our home readers on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Home reader texts that are sent home are 2 – 3 levels lower than what your child is working on in class. This is because they are practising fluency, phrasing and comprehension (understanding the text). Please remember that it is extremely important to have a conversation about the text after your child has read. You could ask them to retell the text in their own words, what the main idea is and why the author wrote the text, describe characters and settings, make connections between the text and their own life or even another text.
3. Magic 100 – Your child may bring home Magic 100 words to learn how to read and write. It is important to complete this daily as it helps with their reading and writing.
4. Maths – To help your child with the recall of basic maths facts we have listed below some websites that help to boost this recall in a fun and engaging way.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games> and <https://www.abcya.com/>

Term 1 Learning Focuses

English

Stage 1 will be implementing the new K-2 syllabus units that align with the new NSW English Syllabus documents. The key focus areas for K-2 English are- Oral language and communication, Vocabulary, Phonological awareness, print conventions, phonic knowledge, reading fluency, reading comprehension, creating written texts, spelling, handwriting and understanding and responding to literature. If you would like more information on the new K-2 Syllabus you can find it here- <https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/syllabuses/english-k-10-2022>

The areas that will have a main focus this term are:

* Speaking and Listening –

Year 1: Students will do topic talks each week. Information about that will come out in Week 4.

Year 2: Students will learn how to create and present a talk. They will create and present one to their class. This will be done in class time.

* Reading/Comprehension – Students will be connecting and understanding sentences and whole text, monitoring for meaning through text-to-self, text-to-text or text-to-world connections when reading

* Writing – Students will be continuing to write in response to quality literature and will plan, create and revise texts written for different purposes like description, narrative, persuasive texts and compare and contrast characters from a text. They will be responding through learning intentions and creating texts following the success criteria.

* Spelling/Handwriting – Spelling and handwriting will continue to be linked this term. Correct letter formation is important and will be a major focus this term.

* Students can practise all their spelling and phonic knowledge on the website below:

Log in at: www.fireflystudents.com.au

Passwords - Yr 1: **where054** Yr 2: **brown877**

* **Book Buddies** will start in Week 5. Letters will be sent home in Week 4 for students who will be participating in the Book Buddies Program this year.

Science - Physical World Unit

Energy All Around Us – Light, Sound and Heat

Students will investigate forms of energy that are around them, identifying light, sound and heat energy, and how they are sensed and produced. They will explore simple examples of how energy can be transferred and transformed and engage in a design task that models, uses or produces one or more forms of energy.

Creative Arts - Music and Drama

Music: Students will sing, play and move to music, demonstrating an awareness of their own capability in using voice and other sound sources. They organise sounds into simple structures and begin representing creative ideas symbolically. Students listen to, and identify, simple features of music and make judgements about musical effectiveness and preference

Drama: Students explore and convey stories, events and feelings through roles, and they work collaboratively to communicate and express feelings about the action of the drama. They experience and respond to a range of drama forms and elements by making, performing and appreciating drama.

Mathematics

Stage 1 will also be utilising the new K-2 Mathematics Syllabus Units. Working Mathematically is now embedded throughout all units and the areas of focus are Number and Algebra, Measurement and Space, Statistics and Probability. During Maths sessions the students will work on revision, practising and timing of basic mathematics skills, building mathematical vocabulary and using Newman's Error Analysis to solve word problems around a variety of mathematics concepts.

This term the students will be working through the areas of:

- Whole Number – Students will cover two- and three-digit numbers and beyond, number patterns, groups of ten, counting in multiples, addition and subtraction and number lines.
- Measurement and Geometry – Students will cover 2D shapes, measuring and comparing length, area, volume, using square units, investigating mass using the equal arm balance.
- Statistics and Probability – Students will be posing questions, gathering data through organising lists, tables and picture graphs. They will also interpret displays of data.

History – The Past in the Present

Students will explore, recognise and appreciate the history of our local area by examining the remains of the past, discussing their importance and why they should be preserved. Students will also create a narrative about Leonay and how it came to be.

Physical Education - Refining Fundamental Movement Skills

Students will continue to develop their ability to perform the fundamental movement skills relevant to their stage of learning in a variety of contexts. Stage 1 students will be taught fine-tuning components for sprint run, static balance, vertical jump and catch. They will also be explicitly taught the introductory components of the hop, side gallop, skip and overarm throw.

Personal Development – Who Looks After and Can Help Me?

Students will explore the significant relationships in their lives and ways these have changed over time. They will discuss the feelings of having their needs met, including help-seeking, as well as feelings associated with unsafe situations. Students define how others keep them safe, as well as their responsibilities in keeping themselves safe. This is closely related to road, water and sun safety. Students revise STAND and look explicitly at each specific letter and what they stand for.

