CLASS INFORMATION BOOKLET

2016

Room 15  Year 2

Mrs Milentis and Mrs Lindsay
Welcome

Welcome to Year Two Room 15! We are off to a great start and the children are settling in well. We both collaborate and plan extensively together in order to ensure continuity of our lessons and students’ learning. We have a Communication Book and are in daily contact with each other regarding the children and important information about the planning and learning in the classroom. This Class Information Booklet will give you some of the information regarding our program and class routines. A timetable will be put on the classroom window for you to view the daily activities and specialist time slots. Individual parent interviews will be held later this term. We will give you more information about this process at the time.

Contact

Please see us with any issues or concerns as soon as possible so we can effectively communicate about your child. The mornings can be busy times so if you would like to speak to us about something important please make a time so we can sit down and have an uninterrupted discussion. You can contact us by phone directly to the school on 94054007. If we are teaching we will return your call as soon as we are able to. Alternatively you can send a note with your child to hand to us. Any important information will be sent through notes in your child’s home folder so please make sure you check this daily. Any reminders or quick information will be on a whiteboard outside our door so please make sure you check this too.

Teaching Philosophy

We believe school is a place where students should feel secure, involved and motivated to learn. We achieve this by catering for individual needs with group activities and engaging open-ended tasks that allow students to work at their own level. We also provide an environment where students have a clear understanding of acceptable behaviours and the expectations of the classroom. We believe students need to feel a sense of belonging and responsibility for their own learning journey. Together we set realistic goals that allow students to remain confident and progress at their own pace. We have a SAER (students at educational risk) program that will be available for students requiring extra help in specific areas.

Class Organisation

Carmen Lindsay teaches Mondays and Tuesdays and Diane Milentis teaches Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The students attend specialist areas for art (Mrs Abbott), Sport and Health (Mr Grey) and Music (Mr Hadzic) Please refer to timetable. In class we cover English, Mathematics, Science, History and Technologies. We use the iMaths text to support our mathematics program. Year Two activities can be accessed from their website using the code BUZZ886. In English we use the Stars & Cars texts (Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies and Strategies to Achieve Reading Success) and guided reading (small groups focusing on a particular text) to improve reading and comprehension skills. We do spelling activities daily.

Homework

The students will be given their homework on Mondays and is to be completed and put in the homework box by Friday morning. They are expected to practise their spelling words each night using the ‘look, cover, write and check’ method. They will be tested on these words on Fridays and the results recorded on their homework sheet for you to view. We also expect a minimum of ten minutes reading per night and a small amount of mathematics. You are welcome to supplement the reading books we offer at school with your own books from home or the library, according to ability or interest. Please record anything read in their home folder. Please assist your child in completing their homework nightly. If you have any concerns with homework or feel it takes your child a considerable amount of time, please see us as soon as possible so we can cater it more individually.
News

Your child has recorded their news day on a note in their reading folder. For this term we are having free news. Please place any item of interest on the news shelves to be left there for the day and returned home at the end of the day.

Supporting Positive Student Behaviour

We are all expected to create an environment which allows the teachers to teach and the students to learn in an effective, safe and enjoyable manner. We have agreed upon a set of classroom rules and have been discussing different levels of behaviour (please come and view our chart on display in the room). The students should clearly understand the expectations of the classroom and the consequences of behaviour which disrupts teaching and learning.

We change our reward system every term to keep it interesting. This term the students move their name along the turtle when they are working or behaving well (our green behaviours). When they reach the final turtle, they receive a prize from the prize box. If you have any small toys at home you no longer want (e.g. McDonalds toys) please bring them in for our prize box.

The students helped to place behaviour that is not acceptable in our classroom into yellow, orange or red depending on how serious they believe it is and which consequence it may belong to. Yellow behaviours receive a warning or reminder, orange behaviours receive a time out/thinking spot and red is straight to a buddy class or the office. We believe setting the expectations together allows students to understand the importance of these rules.

ICT/Computer

During our computer sessions we will be completing some activities on cybersafety to ensure that students understand how important this is when accessing the Internet, both here and at home.

We will be learning computer coding using materials sourced from code.org. Students will learn through problem-solving how to write code in order to have the computer do something that they have planned.

School Website/School App

The school website and the app are your ‘one stop’ shop for information about the school, including events, upcoming activities and online forms. Please download the school app as soon as possible from either the App Store or Google Play. The app’s name is Updat-ed and it is free to download. Further instructions are on the website.

Absences/Attendance

Any absence from school must be supported by an explanation – this can be by note, email, phone call to the office (9405 4007), or by using our online absentee form from the link on the home page of our website. Explanations must be made within three days of the student returning to school. Family holidays during term time must be notified in advance and in writing to the principal.

Incursions, swimming lessons and excursions

These occur from time to time during the year and payment should be made as soon as possible with the return of any permission slips. See the Contributions and Charges sheet on the school website for more details.
Newsletters

These are published on the website fortnightly on Friday commencing in Week 1. If we have your email address on file you will receive an email alert to indicate that the newsletter has been published and links to it. Important information is always placed in the newsletter.

Bullying/graffiti

The school has a zero-tolerance policy to both bullying and graffiti. In the case of the former, please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance if you believe that it is occurring. The sooner we know about it the sooner we can deal with it.

Uniform and School Hats

School uniforms must be worn each day. They are available from Uniform Concepts in Joondalup. The school has a no hat-no play in the sun policy – only bucket, broad-brimmed or Legionnaires styles are permitted. Caps are no longer part of the school uniform.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you require any additional information.

Looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

D Milentis and C Lindsay