

CLASS INFORMATION BOOKLET

2017



Miss Thomas
Room 17 Year 3/4

Welcome

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Room 17, Year 3/4 this year. I am very excited for the year ahead and look forward to getting to know you and your child over the year.

Contact

If you have any queries, concerns or simply need to inform me of something about your child, please contact me by sending a note to school with them or via email. Alternatively, you are welcome to make an appointment to see me before or after school.

Email address- Cara.Thomas@education.wa.edu.au

For urgent matters that may occur during school hours please, contact the front office on 9405 4007 and they will pass on the message.

Classroom/Teaching Philosophy

My first and most important task in Room 17 this year will be to begin developing positive relationships with students and among the children themselves. I want to create a classroom that is a fun, welcoming, positive and fair environment where all students learn from one another and feel safe and comfortable to share their thoughts and ideas. I want the children in Room 17 to have a strong sense of belonging and to feel safe and secure when coming to class.

A high standard in both their behaviour and classroom work will be expected. Students will also be required to take responsibility for both their learning and their behaviour.

Classroom Organisation

As you are aware this is a split class with students from Year 3 and 4. During class time the children will continue to be catered for at their own level, as they would in any other class. As in any class, there will be students working below, at and above their expected achievement level. Therefore students will be extended or provided with extra support as necessary. There will also be times where I will be able to take each year group separately, and this will allow me time to work on year level specific content and help prepare Year 3 students more explicitly for the NAPLAN.

Teaching Methods

I use a variety of teaching strategies throughout the year in order to achieve the best results from students. I will also strive to provide engaging programs to enhance their natural motivation to complete tasks. In all areas students will be taught skills at their level while consolidating and building on concepts already known. They will be extended when needed and provided extra guidance if required.

Equipment

Please ensure that your child has all the required equipment listed on their booklist. It is important that they are clearly labelled with their name. Any spare equipment will be stored at school and given out as required.

Supporting Positive Student Behaviour

In Room 17 students have been involved in the process of creating the Classroom Rules. I have also implemented a number of positive reinforcement strategies.

This year Room 17 will use a 'Levels of Behaviour' system in order to help students make good choices when it comes to behaviour. In this system 'Green behaviours' are the ideal. When students are displaying these behaviours they are encouraged to continue through a variety of ways as listed.

Green Behaviours	Verbal praise Class Dojo Points
Orange Behaviours	Child encouraged to choose a green behaviour to revert to Warning Loss of Dojo Points Time at the 'think' spot Student/Teacher chat
Red Behaviours	Referred to admin Parents contacted If Behaviours continue an Individual Behaviour Plan will be developed

Specialist Areas

LOTE (Mandarin) – Monday 2:00-3:00

Visual Arts – Tuesday 8.45-9.45

Music – Tuesday 9.45-10:45

Physical Education – Wednesday 8.45-9.45 Students should wear appropriate clothing and footwear for these classes. Our Phys Ed class and Senior Sport is on Wednesday. If you feel they should not participate in P E on a particular day, please write a note stating the medical reason. All students will be expected to participate unless they have a note excusing them.

Homework

Students will always have homework (Monday – Thursday)

- 10-15 mins of reading (minimum)
- Spelling words practice

I also include a worksheet that is two pages covering literacy and numeracy topics to be completed. If your child is having difficulty with something sent home please notify me. If they are reading chapter books, please try to encourage them to complete a whole book before reading a new one.

Homework will be checked every Friday so please sign your child's homework book. If they are unable to complete the homework assigned to them please send a note.

I would be happy to speak to any parent/carer who would rather that their child does not participate in regular homework practices or who feels they will be unable to fulfil the homework requirements.

Crunch & Sip

We have found it beneficial for the class to have a water bottle on their desk to prevent dehydration. Plain water is the only beverage permitted and the bottle must have a secure lid. Water bottles should be taken home regularly to be cleaned. Studies have shown that when students eat a good breakfast in the morning, they do better in school. We realise some students have difficulty eating a good breakfast due to lack of time or lack of hunger early in the morning. Students may bring a small fruit or vegetable snack to eat in the classroom. (Nothing sticky or messy). Fresh fruit and vegetables cut into small pieces are best.

Library

On Friday after recess we will spend half an hour in the library each week. In this time children will exchange their library books and learn valuable library research skills. Please try to help your child remember their library bags and books for this day.

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-no play in the sun* policy – only bucket, broad-brimmed or Legionnaires styles are permitted. Caps are no longer part of the school uniform.