

# CLASS INFORMATION BOOKLET

2017



Mr Butt Room 5 Year 6

## **Welcome**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the Year Sixes of 2017, Edgewater's new graduating students.

I very much look forward to working with this group of students. I am confident that all the children in my care will have an enjoyable year as they make the transition to secondary education.

## **Philosophy**

I am very aware of the importance of this stage of your child's educational journey. This is their final year of primary school and the last chance to consolidate key areas and remediate areas of concern before secondary school.

I will continually challenge the children to produce their best. By the end of the year, I want the children to have developed a high degree of self-worth and an understanding of the importance of personal growth in an increasingly competitive world.

I believe that we need our students to really value education. I do not 'spoon feed' them and I do not 'baby' them. I expect them to display initiative and an increasing level of maturity. I expect students to take responsibility for their learning and their behaviour. Organizational skills, time management, goal setting and good study habits are all key aspects that I would expect to develop over the course of the year. I want them to ask 'intelligent' questions, listen effectively, and eliminate 'unnecessary' questions. I aim to have them 'think' about their work and to think about 'why' they are doing something. This will involve students 'having a go' and to never fear failure. I aim for them to develop resilience and a determination to do well. Developing students who are friendly and respectful of others is paramount. I will regularly move them out of their comfort zone as I work towards developing greater self-confidence. I like students to have a sense of humour and where possible, I try to show that learning and having fun can go together.

My philosophy is basically summarized in the 'Fifteen Guidelines'. Students all have a copy of these and are expected to memorize and abide by them in order to ensure the smooth running of the classroom.

## **Communication**

Communication is the core of what we do. I must communicate effectively with the children and they must become effective communicators themselves. I hope for an open line of communication with you as parents. I am happy to discuss your child's progress at any time.

Please contact me to make an appointment if you wish to discuss any aspect of their education. The student diary is available as a communication tool.

## **Learning Emphasis**

There will be a continued focus in the key areas of Literacy and Numeracy. In mathematics, two texts, 'New Wave Mental' and 'Oxford Mathematics' form an important part of the classroom program. 'New Wave Mental' provides the students with daily drilling of basic skills and facts. 'Oxford Mathematics' covers all components of the National Curriculum.

In Literacy, students will be continuously encouraged to read, both in and out of school, and they will study a number of novels throughout the year. Strategies employed will assist them in their transition to secondary education.

I will also be emphasising the language conventions components of grammar, punctuation and correct spelling in context. There will also be focus on general knowledge, including an understanding of current events. I will be working on instilling self-confidence and using drama as a cross-curricular tool.

## **Homework**

- Expectation is 30-40 minutes per night (Monday – Thursday).
- There will be a combination of nightly, weekly and longer tasks.
- Work not completed in class is often expected to be finished at home.
- Students have been asked to provide a written note in their diary from you should there be a problem with completing homework, but please do not ‘rescue’ them in every situation.

## **Specialist Areas**

- MUSIC                      1 hour per week (Mon 8:45 – 9:45)
- ART                            1 hour per week (Mon 9:45 –10:45)
- ICT                            1 hour per week (Wed 9.45 – 10.45)
- PHYS-ED                  1 hour per week (Fri 12.05 – 1.05)

## **Supporting Positive Student Behaviour**

All students are encouraged and expected to display a high standard in both behaviour and attitude. Room 5’s ‘Fifteen Guidelines’ are intended to guide students in both of these areas.

## **ICT/Computer**

During our computer sessions we will be completing some activities on cyber safety 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 / Excursions / Swimming Lessons**

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. 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.

## **School Telephone: 94054007**

I look forward to everyone enjoying a challenging and rewarding school year in 2017.

Terry Butt