

Parent/Caregivers Meeting - Room G4

Wednesday the 17th February 2016

“Learning Together Everyday”

Our school motto is **“Learning Together Every Day”**. It encompasses our goal to establish a collaborative learning environment where students can **be the best they can be**.

School Hours

8:50am - 3:00pm

Classrooms open at 8.40am. Please ensure your child arrives on time to commence work at 8:50. Children are asked to go straight to the undercover area if they arrive before the school day begins.

Recess: 10:50 - 11:10

Lunch: 12:40 - 1:20

Our Class Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.50am – 9.10am	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting
9.10am – 10.50am	English Block	English Block	PHYS. ED. LIBRARY	English Block	English Block
Recess					
11.10am – 12.00pm	Maths Block	ART	Maths Block	Maths Block	Maths Block - Problem Solving/STEM
12.00pm – 12.40pm					
2.10pm – 2.30pm	HEALTH	HASS - History	SCIENCE/TOPIC	MUSIC	Visible Learning
2.30pm – 3.00pm	MUSIC			HASS - Civics and Citizenship	Senior Sport

Academic Program

Our **Morning Meeting** occurs every morning between 8:50 and 9:10. Morning meetings are a great way to get students ready for the day and to give them a “glimpse” of learning activities that day. It is also a great way to encourage a sense of belonging to the group and promote a safe learning environment. The message on the whiteboard relates to what we have been or will be focussing on in class. Students are encouraged to read through the message and at times add comments to the board. The messages focus on academic, behavioural and social topics. At HPPS, over 50% of the school day is focussed on English and Mathematics. These learning opportunities will be through whole class instructions, group work, partner work and individual work. We use a variety of learning approaches including; written tasks, consolidation activities technologies and hands on learning.

The academic program consists of English, Mathematics, HASS, Science and Health.

In every class there are a range of abilities and we cater for these by providing activities that engage and provide variety. We ensure optimum learning for each child through the use of the ENGINE ROOM, where more 1-1 and small group intensive learning occurs.

Students will be aware of learning objectives for each lesson through the use of Learning Intentions and Success Criteria.

English Block

Students will be assessed and placed in groups to complete spelling, grammar, writing and reading activities.

Writing - This term in writing students will practice writing informational texts, recounts and summaries. Students will be explicitly taught and reminded how to write a narrative and persuasive text. Students will be given a rubric from the Australian Curriculum Judging Standards to help them understand what is expected in each writing piece.

Spelling - This term students will continue on the Words Their Way Spelling Program. Students have been assessed and levelled on the program. Students will practice sorting, reading and writing their words daily at school. Students will have a paper copy as well as a handwritten copy of their weekly spelling words in their homework book.

Reading - This term students will be explicitly taught to use a range of comprehension skills to improve their reading and understanding of texts. Students will also read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts both on the Internet and in books. Students are encouraged to read on a daily basis and can borrow books from the school library.

Speaking & Listening - This term students will be asked to share their ideas orally with their peers. Students may also be asked to present short oral presentations to the class or a small group.

Mathematics

Students will be assessed and work in groups to consolidate their learning in Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability. Children will also be explicitly taught problem solving strategies in order to apply their mathematical skills in everyday situations. Students will complete a range of activities including hands on, interactive, group and individual activities. This occurs on a rotational basis. One activity that students will complete regularly is called Number Concept Practice. Students are given 10 minutes to complete set addition, subtraction, multiplication or division sums. They are encouraged to use a range of Mental Maths strategies to complete the sums quickly. Students then graph their results and monitor their progress.

STEM Learning

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities allow students to be more hands on and active in their learning. These 4 Learning Areas are deeply intertwined in the real world and in how students learn most effectively. Students will be regularly completing STEM tasks throughout the year.

HASS

This term in Humanities, and Social Sciences (HASS) students are focussing on History and Civics and Citizenship. Students are learning about the history of Australia and the First Fleet. Students will also be learning how to pose a range of research questions and research information using a range of resources including reports, diaries and articles located in books and on the internet. Students will also be learning about how to decide whether a source is reliable and accurate. In Civics and Citizenship students will be learning about the role of local government and the difference between 'rules' and 'laws'.

Science

In Science this term students are focusing on Physical Sciences - Forces.

Health

In Health students will be learning about resilience and self confidence. Students will also be revising growth mindsets. Our Health program this term will be closely linked to the PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) program that has been introduced this year at Hammond Park Primary School.

Specialist Classes

Music: Ms Winfield

Physical Education: Mr Negre

Art: Mrs Gilks

Please note appropriate footwear (ie joggers) to be worn for Phys. Ed lessons & faction shirts to be worn on a Friday for Senior Sport.

Please note oversized shirts to be kept in school for Art.

IT (Information Technology)

In our class we embrace IT in all Learning areas. We are fortunate to have 10 Macbooks and 8 iPads in our class and an additional 8 shared iPads in G block.

Google Classroom

As part of our IT learning and in order to communicate with each other the children all have a Google account which will be used for school related activities.

Classroom Environment

All students are expected to be considerate and work in a manner that does not disturb others from learning, whilst always ensuring they are following our school expectations. This year students will be explicitly taught the expectations and social skills that we expect at Hammond Park Primary School.

We are a PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) school and our school expectations are -

We are RESPONSIBLE

We are RESPECTFUL

We are SAFE

We are LEARNERS

Assessment

Formative and summative assessments are carried out throughout the school year. In Year 4 we conduct the following assessments: Words their Way (Spelling), Running Records (Reading), PAT (Maths, Reading, Punctuation & Grammar, Science) and Writing Moderation.

Children sit the NAPLAN tests in Years 3, 5 and 7. Throughout all years, we continue to build on their knowledge to ensure children are confident with assessment procedures and familiar with the language of assessments in each of their Learning Areas. All children have a progress file that they build on throughout the year and monitor their learning.

Visible Learning

In our school we encourage visible learning. Visible learning according to John Hattie is "When learning is the explicit goal: when there is feedback given and sought and when there are active, passionate, and engaging people, including teachers, students, and peers participating in the act of learning. In our class we use our knowledge of visible learning to approach all of our activities in a positive manner with an "I can do attitude". We use "growth mindset language" to encourage students to really think about what the next step

in their own learning journey and to continually reflect. We will also be using our Progress Files to help keep track of our goals and achievements for the year.

School Policies

We have a number of school policies, which include Anti-Bullying, Homework, Behaviour, Mobile Phones, Head Lice, No Hat No Play, Whole-School Expectations and our Internet usage agreement. If you require any further information on any of our school policies please feel free to contact me.

Behaviour

We follow a whole school behaviour system. We focus more on positives and good choices. However, if children make poor choices we do follow a consequence system. Students will receive a warning, verbal warning, have time out of class, be sent to a buddy class and finally be sent to the office. Negative behaviours are recorded on SIS and if this occurs parents will be contacted.

Reward System

Students have decided on an individual point system for this term and are regularly rewarded with points for working collaboratively and completing work to a high standard.

Homework

Students will be provided with homework on a daily basis. The homework has been set out in a grid with a range of spelling, reading and mathematical tasks included. Students in Year 4 are encouraged to spend at least 20 minutes per night on their homework. The structure of this homework allows the students to have a flexible approach to the completion of homework and offers a variety of activities catering for a range of ability levels. We do not operate a home reading programme in Year 4 but encourage the students to read a wide range of texts (newspapers, books, information brochures) for enjoyment each day. Students can borrow books from our home reading section and our school library.

Absenteeism

Absentee notes are a legal requirement. Please send a dated note to school immediately following an absence. If your child has an appointment during school time you must go through the office and they will provide you with a 'leave pass' slip to pass on to me for my records. Emails and phone calls are considered an appropriate means of communicating absenteeism.

Birthdays

Please can we remind parents that we are an "allergy friendly" school and that any treats would be best kept until the end of the school day. The canteen is offering a 'cupcake service' this year for students with birthdays. Please contact the canteen about this at least two weeks before the birthday date.

Communication

Please feel free to make an appointment to see me regarding your child's progress or any concerns you may have. You are also more than welcome to just pop in to say hello!

I hope you have found this summary informative. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions

Anna Pol
Room G4 Class Teacher