

G3 Classroom Information Pack 2018
Teacher: Mr Jonathan Kurtjak

My name is Jonathan Kurtjak (Mr. K) and welcome to G3. I look forward to working with you and your child to achieve their learning goals for Year 2 in 2018. The purpose of this information package is to help answer any questions you may have about our classroom and to inform you of our specific learning goals we will be targeting this year with your child.

Changes to Personal Details/Circumstances

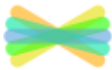
Please inform the school of any personal changes such as medical issues, custody arrangements, telephone numbers or change of address. It is important for the safety and wellbeing of your child that we are aware of these changes as it allows for us to fully support their development and make contact with you when necessary.

Daily Requirements

Each day your child will need a bucket hat, drink bottle and appropriate footwear. Please note that at Hammond Park PS we have a 'No hat, No play' policy. Students are required to wear their school hat during recess, lunch and during outdoor activities

- On days your child has sport please make sure they are in appropriate closed in shoes
- Faction shirts may be worn on Friday
- Library bags are required in order for students to borrow books (every Thursday)
- Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled

Parent Communication



As a way to communicate easily with parents a class account has been set up on **Seesaw**. Please scan the QR code to can sign up. **SeeSaw** can be downloaded as an app from Apple or Android devices or alternatively can be accessed on the website. It is a free and secure service that allows for easy communication between home and school. Photos of what we have been doing in class, information and reminders about upcoming events will be posted here. Please do not share this code with friends and family.



Hammond Park Primary School uses the Skoolbag App to communicate with parents. Please download the app by searching for Hammond Park to keep up to date with whole school events. Newsletters can continently be obtained from the school's website or through the app.

Individual Meetings/Concerns

For informal questions or quick discussions please feel free to come in and see me before or after school. Alternatively, if you would like to discuss your child's academic progress, behaviour or if you have any other concerns, please make a formal appointment to meet.

Fabulous Food Factory

Lunches are available to order from our Fabulous Food Factory on Wednesdays, Thursday and Fridays. Students may go to the canteen during recess and lunchtime on Fridays only. Lunch orders can be ordered through the Quickclicks app <https://quickcliq.com.au/>. For excursions, the canteen also offers excursion packs for students to order on these days to assist with lunch.

Crunch 'N' Sip

Crunch 'N' Sip is a whole-school approach that promotes healthy eating habits. Every afternoon students are encouraged to eat **fresh fruit or vegetables** and drink from their water bottles to remain hydrated and nourished for our afternoon sessions.

Home Reading/Homework

At Hammond Park Primary School, homework is set to provide students with the opportunity to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. Students in Years 1-3 are encouraged to complete up to 15 minutes of set homework each night during the week (Monday – Thursday). Homework may consist of:

- Home reading
- Spelling practice
- Mathletics Live
- StudyLadder (sign-up through www.studyladder.com)
- Completion of any unfinished work during class time (by negotiation with teacher and parents).

Reading – At least 10 minutes of oral reading to develop your child’s reading fluency, comprehension skills and vocabulary is recommended. It is essential that your child reads at their recommended level as reading is a vital life skill. To support your child further we recommend that you ask questions related to the text before, during and after reading. Students are able to read texts from the library, class home readers or books from home and are encouraged to record their text, number of pages and minutes read, in their home reading folder. Students do not need to change their home reader every day. You may wish to read the same book a few nights in a row to extend their comprehension by asking different questions.

Bugs Club – Students can access online books via Bugs Club providing they have read their assigned home reader with an adult.

Spelling/Phonics – It is suggested that your child practises their spelling and phonics sounds at home every night. Students may choose to read out their words or engage in a peer activity with parent help.

Mathletics – Students may access Mathletics at home to compete in Mathletics live. Your child may require some paper for working out. To use the Mathletics program your child will need access to a home computer, laptop or tablet and internet connection. Alternatively, students may practise their weekly mental maths focus or any other area of focus in their homework books. There is no right or wrong way to calculate. The more strategies the better!

PBS and classroom behaviour

Hammond Park Primary School uses Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) to promote positive expected behaviours around the school. The expectations are:

- We are RESPONSIBLE
- We are RESPECTFUL
- We are SAFE
- We are LEARNERS

Faction tokens will be distributed to students who demonstrate these expectations and behaviours in the classroom and playground. In addition, PBS slips will be issued to students who demonstrate and follow the expectation focus of the week. PBS slips are placed in a raffle for a canteen voucher. Each week, there will be a specific PBS focus so feel free to ask me more about that each week!

Morning Message/Morning Meetings

Each morning, a red message board will be displayed outside our classroom. The board displays a message for the students to read about the day’s learning and will convey any messages or information required for the day. Please encourage your child to read the message and respond when necessary. Please discourage younger siblings from writing on the board as it is re-read and discussed during our morning meetings. After setting up for the day, students are encouraged to use their mini whiteboards to continue responding to the morning message board in preparation for our Morning Meeting.

Morning Meetings occur in each class from 8:50-9:10. During this time, students build a sense of belonging, establish and foster positive friendships and develop their oral communication skills.

Curriculum

Much of our day is spent focusing on English and Mathematics and this makes up the core of our teaching program. Many of the other learning areas are integrated through these subjects.

English

Our English program is taught in morning blocks. In these sessions, students complete activities involving spelling, phonics, guided reading, handwriting, grammar lessons, writing and speaking and listening.

During English activities in our class, students will be encouraged to:

- Apply a wide range of reading strategies within class and at home
- Read a wide variety of texts both hard copy and electronically (Bugs' Club)
- Experiment with written language to produce a variety of different text types
- Participate in a variety of oral language activities through our Talk 4 Writing program
- Identify and reflect on their own values and opinions in a variety of situations
- Expand their vocabulary through learning new words and sounds

Goals in Year 2

- Reading at level 22
- Use a range of reading strategies to help with text comprehension
- Understand literal and inferential meaning in texts
- Draw from their own experiences and knowledge to create short imaginative, informative and persuasive texts
- Use appropriate punctuation and spelling of high frequency words
- Write legibly
- Complete Phase 6 of Letters and Sounds spelling program

How can you help?

You can help support our English Program by:

- Encouraging your child to read regularly and reading with them when possible
- Encouraging your child to borrow/return library books at school each week and ask about their book
- Helping your child write the books or pages they have read each night in their home reading folder.
- Hammond Park Primary School provides students in Year 2 with a subscription to 'Bugs' Club', which all Year 2 teachers will be utilising this year
- 'Bugs' Club' is a program where students can read a variety of different texts and answer comprehension questions - your child will be given an access code in the near future
- Ensuring any homework given is completed and returned to school
- Keeping in regular contact with the teacher to ensure we are working together for your child

Mathematics

Our Mathematics program includes number and algebra, measurement and geometry and statistics and probability.

During Maths activities in our class, students will be encouraged to:

- Solve problems that are relevant to real life situations
- Persist with problems, ask questions and check their work
- Work collaboratively with their peers to learn new concepts and build on prior knowledge

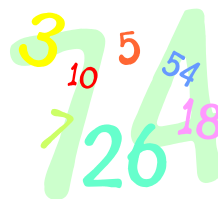
Our targets in Year 2:

- Solve simple addition and subtraction problems
- Count on and backwards from any starting point up to 1000
- Represent halves and quarters of collections
- Count and order small collections of Australian coins
- Describe the features of 3D objects
- Tell the time to 'quarter to' and 'quarter past' on analogue and digital clocks
- Reading the day and date on a calendar and calculate durations in time
- Identify the events that are unlikely, likely, certain and impossible

How can you help?

You can support our program by:

- Helping to ensure your child knows the correct number formation and recognition of numbers to 1000
- Encouraging use of mathematics skills around the house, especially counting, time telling and financial skills
- Ensuring any homework given is completed and the use of Mathletics is kept to **Mathletics live** only
- Encouraging a positive attitude towards mathematics



HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences)

This year students will be focussing on the past and present and our connections to places. The HASS curriculum is integrated into other areas as well as being addressed in isolation. The skill of inquiry will be developed this year as students move from accepting facts to developing structured questions, drawing on previous knowledge, and creating new understandings. Students are encouraged to ask 'open' questions instead of 'closed' (yes/no) questions. Additional learning opportunities will be available through excursions.

Science

In Science for semester one, we will be exploring chemical and physical changes of objects, materials and living things. Your child will be able to identify that certain materials and resources have different uses and describe examples of where science is used in people's daily lives. In semester two, your child will begin learning about biological and Earth science. We will observe and explore patterns of growth and changes in living things. In addition, we will also explore the use of resources from Earth, such as the flow of water.

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

In our class we are lucky enough to have access to iPads and MacBooks throughout the day. Students use iPads to reinforce skills learnt, as well as develop their technology skills. There are two components to this area; Digital Technology, and Design and Technology. Digital Technology is about learning to use technology, whereas Design and Technology is about learning to solve real life problems through/with technology. It is an initiative to restore the focus and help students adapt to 21st century learning. This is integrated within other curriculum areas and is supported by our high ratio of ICT in iPads, MacBooks, Chrome Books and interactive software. Students will engage in inquiry-based learning that supports their ability to reflect and become more critical thinkers. Additional learning opportunities such as excursions and incursions will be available throughout the year.

Specialist Teacher Classes

Students will be participating in three specialist learning areas. These areas include Art, Music and Physical Education.

- *Music:* Tuesday and Thursday with Lana Winfield
- *Physical Education:* Tuesday with Ryah Hadden
- *Art:* Friday with Joanne Thomas

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)/ Extension Plans (EP)

At Hammond Park Primary School, we differentiate the learning and instruction that takes place in each classroom to cater for a range of diverse needs and abilities. An IEP/EP will be written for your child with additional needs and goals to ensure they are able to access the curriculum at an appropriate level.

Should your child require an IEP/EP, I will contact you so that we can organise a suitable time to meet to discuss short-term, achievable goals. IEP/EP meetings generally take place around week four or five of the term. The IEP/EP will be reviewed in week nine of each term. I will also use SEESAW to update you and inform you if another meeting is required. If you have any questions regarding IEPs please make an appointment to come see me before or after school.

Visible Learning

At Hammond Park Primary School we use the school-wide strategy of "Visible Learning" to keep students accountable and up to date with their learning expectations and goals. At the start of each lesson, the students are made aware of the 'learning intention' for the lesson. The 'learning intention' helps establish what is to be the focus for that lesson and is expanded upon with 'success criteria'. The criteria are often generated with the assistance of students and focus on what needs to be achieved in order for the 'learning intention' to be reached.

Library

Library is on Thursday each week before lunch. Please support your child's literacy, reading and research skills by encouraging them to borrow library books each week and to return them on the correct day. It is important that your child has a library bag to ensure they can carry their books and look after them correctly. Your child is able to borrow one book from the library each library session. Students are able to change their library books again before their library day on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, however this is to be done in their time (lunch).

Before School Processes

At Hammond Park Primary School, we have a *No Playing Before School Policy*. Students are encouraged to put their bag outside their classroom when they arrive at school and then move to the undercover area where they will be supervised until 8:40am. Please remind your child of this policy should you drop them off before 8:35am.

Water Bottles

The children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day and are asked to have their water bottles in class with them. Please ensure this is the case for your child as it is inconvenient for the children to leave the class to regularly get drinks from the outside taps and that their water bottles are clearly labelled.

Uniforms

Hats - Students are encouraged to wear a broad brimmed hat. School hats can be purchased at the front office. Students who do not have a hat will be required to sit in the shade during recess and lunch breaks. Students may borrow hats for Physical Education lessons, however it is beneficial that each student have their own hat that is clearly labelled.

Uniforms - Students are encouraged to wear their school uniform, school shirt and navy shorts or shirts each day. On Fridays students can wear their faction shirts. It is advised that all clothing is also clearly labelled to decrease the chance of lost property throughout the school year, especially during swimming lessons weeks.

Birthdays

If it is your child's birthday and you wish to share cakes with the class please make sure they are already cut up or in individual servings as we do not have the facilities for doing this in class. Please be advised there are students with severe allergies within our class and encourage allergy-friendly foods.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Bullying is not tolerated at our school, and children are encouraged to report all acts of bullying so that action can be taken. G block classes will take part in *2018 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence* through numerous activities within the class.

Head Lice

If head lice are found in the class, notes will go home to all students encouraging parents to check their child's hair before commencing any necessary treatment. The school does not provide head lice treatment for purchase.

Medication

If your child needs medication teachers are only allowed to administer it if you have the written paperwork from your doctor (see School Information Booklet). If your child suffers from Asthma, communicate this with the teacher, especially if they do not have an Asthma plan from the doctor. For antibiotics I would suggest giving it before and after school and again before bedtime, or if possible pop up to school at lunchtime to administer yourself.

Attendance and Absences

Should your child be absent from school, we encourage you to let the school know as soon as practicable on 9494 3200. If your child has not arrived before 9.00am they will be marked as absent. The first absence SMS will be sent out at 10.00am. Any absences from school must be covered with a signed, dated note once the child returns. When collecting children during school hours, you must first report to the office and sign the child out. This slip must be given to the class teacher before the child is released.

Newsletters

As Hammond Park Primary School is conscious of the environment, the newsletter will now be available on the school website or schoolbag app for you to access. If you are unable to access it via the website you can request a hard copy from the office. Please visit the website to keep up to date with Hammond Park's events throughout the year.

URL Address: <http://hammondparkps.wa.edu.au/>

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Please feel free to make an appointment to discuss any concerns or queries you may have, as before and after school can often be quite busy.

Parent Helpers

Parent volunteers are more than welcome in our classroom to listen to students read and/or assist in small group activities. We also love volunteers to come along on excursions with us too. If you are interested in volunteering, you can come see me at the beginning of the week to set up a time.

I look forward to learning together everyday with you and your child in 2018.

Kind regards,

Jonathan Kurtjak

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