

## Year 2 Information



Welcome to Year Two at Hammond Park Primary School. Our first few weeks together have been great, and we are confident we are going to have a fantastic year together. We look forward to working with you and your children to achieve their learning goals.

Thank you for filling stationery orders so promptly. It certainly makes the start of the year very smooth if students have everything they need.

The purpose of these information pages is to help you understand our classroom programs. Please do not hesitate to see your child's teacher if you have any further questions or concerns. Good communication between home and school will make this year a rewarding one for your child.

### **Daily Requirements:**

- Each day your child will need a school hat, drink bottle and appropriate footwear
- We have a 'No hat, No play' policy. Students must wear school hats at recess, lunch and during outdoor activities
- Running shoes are needed during Physical Education lessons
- Faction shirts may be worn on Fridays
- Students can only borrow books if they have a library bag
- Please remember to label all belongings.

### **Parent Communication:**



Each Year Two class has set up an account on **Seesaw**. This can be downloaded as an app on Apple or Android devices or alternatively can be accessed on the website. It is a free, secure service that allows for easy communication between home and school. QR Codes will be sent home for you to use to access your child's account. 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.

### **Individual Meetings/Concerns**

For informal questions or quick discussions please feel free to come in and see your child's teacher 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 with us.

### **Lunch/Recess/Birthdays**

Due to a number of allergies in Year Two classes and to prevent students coming into contact with nuts please avoid them in lunch boxes and birthday cakes. Birthday cakes will go home at the end of the day and will not be handed out during school time.

In Year Two students can access the canteen for recess or lunches on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday it is closed every Tuesday. All items need to be pre-ordered except for Friday recess orders which can be pre-ordered, or students can use the canteen's walk-up service on this day. If you are sending money with your child to school for them to make a recess purchase, please send it in a clearly labelled purse, wallet or zip lock bag. Lunch orders can also be placed through QuickCliq -<https://quickcliq.com.au/>. For excursions, the canteen also offers excursion packs for students to order on these days, letters will be sent home with excursion letters giving further details.

### **Crunch 'N' Sip**

Crunch 'N' Sip is a whole-school program that promotes healthy eating and encourages students to drink water every day. Each day students are encouraged to have some **fresh fruit or vegetables** and a drink from their water bottles.

### **Home Reading/Homework**

The school policy for Year 2 is 10-15 minutes of homework each night. This includes reading levelled readers and practising spelling words.

By participating in the home reading system, you are joining us in helping your child become a confident, independent and skilled reader, who reads for a variety of purposes. Parents are asked to read at home with their child every night or morning. Please take time to discuss the book with your child, talk about the pictures, characters or the storyline. Check your child's understanding by asking simple comprehension questions about the text. It is good practice for beginning readers to read a book *two or three times* as this helps to develop their sight word vocabulary and their confidence. Remember to praise and encourage your child's efforts with positive comments. Once students have completed a book, please sign the *Home Reading Log*. Students will change their books once the doors have opened in the mornings.

### **Before School**

Before the doors open at 8.40am the teachers are busy preparing for the day and as such are not on duty to watch children who are unattended at school. If you need to drop your child off between 8.20am and 8.40am please ensure they are taken to the Undercover Area where a member of our administration team is on duty. If you arrive with your child at this time, please wait outside the classroom doors and ensure your child is not playing on the equipment or playgrounds. We appreciate your support in keeping all our students safe.

### **Morning Message/Morning Meetings**

In the morning a message board will be displayed outside the 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 where necessary. Please discourage younger siblings from writing on the board as it is re-read and discussed during our morning meetings.

Morning Meetings occur in each class from 8:50-9:10. During this time, students build a sense of community, interact with one another in purposeful ways and focus on the learning for the day.

### **Play Based Learning**

The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) guides teachers in developing quality, early childhood education programs and strongly promotes play based learning stating that play is the 'context for learning through which children organise and make sense of their social worlds, as they actively engage with people, objects and representations'. As such play-based learning is one of the mechanisms the Year Two teachers will be using to deliver their teaching and learning programs. Play allows children to explore, experiment, discover and solve problems in non-threatening environments and in imaginative ways. A play-based approach involves the teacher carefully planning the play experiences to encourage student's learning and inquiry through interactions that aim to develop and challenge their higher order thinking skills. Some examples of the types of play-based learning experiences children will be involved in are role play activities, games, songs and dances, imaginative play, construction etc. If you have any old toys, sheets, blankets, dress ups etc. that you feel we could use in our classrooms or playground we would be extremely grateful. Please pass on any donations to your child's teacher.

### **Information Communication Technology (ICT)**

In our class we are lucky enough to have access to ten iPads throughout the day. Students use iPads to reinforce skills learnt, as well as continuing to develop their technology skills. Your child will have already brought home the *Acceptable Use Agreement*, about the rules when using technology and the internet.

Please take the time to discuss this with your child, and then return signed by both yourself and the student to your child's class teacher.

### **The National Quality Standard (NQS)**

The National Quality Standard sets a national benchmark for quality education and care across Australia. Here at Hammond Park Primary School, the teachers and administration staff work together to ensure high quality care and a rich educational program as set out by this document.

### **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 blocks in the morning. In these sessions students complete activities involving spelling, phonics, guided reading, handwriting, grammar lessons, writing and speaking and listening.

By the end of Year 2, students should be able to:

- apply a wide range of reading strategies
- read a wide variety of texts
- experiment with written language to produce a variety of different text types
- participate in a range of oral language activities
- spell words with regular spelling patterns
- use punctuation accurately
- write words and sentences legibly

### **Mathematics**

The Mathematics program is taught on the mat as a whole class lesson. Students are then given differentiated explicit teaching at the 'engine room' (red table). Students also move between rotations to consolidate other mathematical skills and concepts.

By the end of Year 2 students should be able to:

- count to and from 1000
- perform simple addition and subtraction calculations using a range of strategies
- divide collections and shapes into halves, quarters and eights
- tell time to the quarter hour
- use a calendar to identify the date, month and seasons
- collect, organise and represent data

### **STEM- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**

At Hammond Park, we encourage students to engage in STEM projects. These projects are integrated activities that focus on building their knowledge and enthusiasm in learning 21st century skills involving Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Students will tackle problems collaboratively using their imagination to find creative solutions.

We look forward to working with you and your child throughout the year. We are sure it will be an exciting and productive year for us all!

Miss Durham (E5), Mrs. Ainsworth (E6), Mrs. Findlater (E6), Miss Garbett (G1), Mrs. Calder (G2), Mr. Kurtjak (G3) and Mrs. Higgins (G4)