**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>24th Feb</td>
<td>First Aid for students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th Feb</td>
<td>Little Athletics Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th March</td>
<td>Life Education Mobile Classroom at ANPS</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Fairytales Fiasco Incursion</td>
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**Information**

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone, (parents, students and teachers), for the smooth beginning to the year in the 1/2 Unit. Mr Jaggard joins us this year in Room 10 (1/2J). We also welcome new students and their families.

To allow your child to become more independent and responsible for their belongings, it is important for parents to select a designated **outside** area for pickup. Parents are to remain outside so classroom programs can continue without disruptions. Thank you to all parents for your support in assisting your child to settle into their new grade and into classrooms and school routines.

Parents often ask about homework. The expectation is that your child reads for at least 15 minutes every night. Please remember to record their nightly reading in their reading log books.

**Reminders**

- Please ensure your child arrives at school on time before the 8.45am bell.
- Students need to wear hats in term 1.
- Water bottles need to be clearly labelled with your child’s name.
- A healthy breakfast, prepared snack and lunch will assist with your child’s learning.

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:**

Parents will have an opportunity to meet their child’s teacher on Wednesday 4th March to exchange information that will assist their child in their learning at school and at home. Please arrange a time with the teacher if you are not able to attend the Parent /Teacher Exchange Day.

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**ENGLISH**

Students will continue to practice good reading behaviours. They will continue to select “Just Right Books” and practise effective strategies to become better readers.

In Writing, students will focus on two writing genres: personal narratives and narratives. The Writers Notebooks will consist of three sections: Writer’s Ideas List, Memorabilia and Powerful Language. Students are encouraged to bring memorabilia to school (photos, brochures, magazine cuttings, articles, pictures etc.) These can be pasted into their Writer’s Notebook and used as visual prompts for writing ideas e.g. “I have a picture of a rhinoceros because I saw one at Werribee Zoo and I want to learn more about them.”

**MATHEMATICS**

The topics we will be working on this term are Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Length, Shapes, Statistics and Probability and Time (as related to the calendar). Activities you could do at home to support your child’s learning in maths include:

- Finding, reading and writing numbers in the environment. (house numbers, registration plates on cars) and identifying patterns in number.
- Putting objects in groups and bundles of 10s and 100s.
- Solving simple everyday addition and subtraction problems.
- Measuring length of items in the house and identifying shapes in everyday life.

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Our first topic for this term is ‘Getting Along’.

**Our Major Topic Understanding is:**

Our behaviours affect how we get along with others.

**Our Focus Questions are:**

- What are positive (acceptable) and negative (not acceptable) behaviors?
- How do we get along with others?
- Why is it important to get along with others?

Our 2nd inquiry topic for the term is ‘Fairytale’s’.

**Our Major Topic Understanding is:**

The behaviours of others affect the people around us.

**Our Focus Questions are:**

- What are positive (acceptable) and negative (not acceptable) behaviors?
- How do we get along with others?
- Why is it important to get along with others?

The ‘Fairytale’s’ Inquiry topic will extend and further develop students’ understandings of getting along, continuing to focus on behaviour and values. Students will be identifying the behaviours present in fairytale, behaviours that affect our safety, how the behaviours of characters are similar or different in fairytale and why our behaviours are important to groups and individuals.

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**1/2 Unit**

**Class Teachers:** Helen Myszka, Chantal Touma, David Jaggard

**Support Staff:** Mary Day, Gemma Altolga
**Visual Arts**

It will be a busy term for the children in Grade 1 / 2 in Visual Arts. The children will be guided through activities to further explore the elements of art such as line, shape, pattern and colour. Friendships, Family, and celebrations such as The Chinese New Year and the 50th Birthday Celebrations for Altona North Primary School will be used as a focus for artwork.

The children will contribute to the Art in Public Places display at the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre. This year’s exhibition is based around Sustainability and Environment.

The children will engage in art forms such as drawing, painting, printing, collage and construction.

Can children please be supplied with an art smock to protect their clothing. An old oversized shirt, clearly labelled with their name would be fine. Art smocks will not be stored in the art room and will become the responsibility of the child. Please become aware of the day that your child has art so that you may remind them to bring their art smock to school. Thank you.

Deb Morgan

**Music / Performing Arts**

Grade 1/2 students will continue to develop their musical ability and use percussion instruments, dancing and singing to create a performance for the school’s 50th Anniversary celebration. Students will develop their performance skills within small groups and perform to one another in the classroom.

Students will also focus on singing, remembering and performing a variety of songs that will link to the theme of ‘Celebration’.

Cassie McCawly

**Sustainability:**

In grade P-2 the students will be introduced to the recycling programs at ANPS through the practical use of the paper, can/plastics, worm bins and waste bin.

The students are encouraged to be aware of the need to care for the environment in which we live in, through every day actions and behaviours.

Wal Raghdo

**Physical Education**

Term One will be an exciting time for the 1/2 students as they will be continuing to develop the fundamental skills of run, bounce, catch and jump. The students will begin to experiment with a wide variety of equipment to develop their skills, including hoops and small balls. The students will also be introduced to the fundamental skills of leaping and dodging. These will be incorporated into rotational activities and games. Close attention will be placed on ball control with the introduction of modified sports. The students will explore movement through games that require them to run, gallop, skip and hop. An emphasis will be placed on the importance of following rules and instructions in all activities, in order to ensure safe play. Lynette Soto