



### **CURRICULUM**

In Room 3, my expectation is that all students have the right to learn, to feel safe, to be themselves and to feel a sense of belonging. I tell my students that when they are at school our class is like a family... we are a community within the wider school community and we need to work together to help and encourage each other. In line with our whole school positive behaviour program, I focus on teaching the positive expected behaviours that contribute to a harmonious engaging learning environment. I also believe strongly that participation is the key to learning and that mistakes are normal and ok and mean that they are trying. In the safe supportive environment of our classroom, where differences are accepted and celebrated, it is my expectation that all students will achieve their best.

### **Literacy Blocks:**

Literacy blocks teach phonological awareness skills, explicit skills in phonics, spelling, reading comprehension, writing, sentence structure and grammar. In Term 4, spelling will continue to be taught on a two week rotational basis. The children will each have 10 - 20 words and 6 sight/extension words to learn over this time. The spelling program will include hands on activities and games as well as the traditional bookwork. In class, spelling rules and grammar will be taught in addition to phonic sounds and patterns. Writing will include recount, report, narrative and letter writing. Reading comprehension skills will include fact and opinion, inference and figurative language. Sentence structure will focus on revising and consolidating writing of compound sentences and constructing paragraphs. In grammar, students will revise and consolidate their knowledge of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. This term, we will continue to learn cursive writing in handwriting lessons. Literacy rotations will be introduced this term and will include guided reading, phonic dictation, comprehension/vocabulary skills and spelling using the iPads.

In addition to the home readers that the students take home to read each night, I allow regular opportunities for silent reading, where students can select a book from our in-class library to read. I also set aside time each day to read a serial story to the children.

### **Mathematics:**

Mathematics blocks will begin with Numeracy warm-ups to introduce and consolidate numerical concepts. In Number, we will focus on fractions and money. In Measurement and Geometry, the focus will be on measuring mass and an understanding of the calendar and seasons. In Statistics and Probability, the students will devise a question to investigate a topic and collect and interpret data from their peers.

### **HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences)**

This term, we will continue with Geography focusing initially on Australian landforms through the text 'Are We There Yet' by Alison Lester. We will then investigate the student's connections to places in Australia and around the world. This will be followed by the study of Australia's neighbours including New Zealand.

### **Science:**

With Mrs Vanessa Charlton, the students will be studying chemical sciences this term.

### **Health and Physical Education:**

Mr Chipchase will teach the students Phys Ed and it is important that on these days the children wear joggers to school and their new school hat.

### **No Hat No Play**

GDHS has a year round hat policy which means that each student must have a hat in order to participate in Physical Education, Junior Sport, recess and lunch play. The students have each been provided with a school hat.

**Visual Arts**

Mrs Roseanne Watson will be teaching the children visual art. They look forward to this every Tuesday afternoon.

**Critical and Creative thinking**

In all areas of the Curriculum, the children are encouraged to be creative and develop their critical thinking skills. Problem solving is an important life skill and the children are challenged to work things out for themselves rather than being told what to do.

**Homework Requirements:**

The children select a home reader to take home each night and their progress is documented in the home reading booklets. Marked spelling word lists are sent home at the beginning of each fortnight in their homework book. This gives you the opportunity to see where the children most need assistance. It is reasonable to target 4-5 words each night. Once the children have mastered spelling their word lists in isolation, they are to be encouraged to write them in sentences and look up the meaning in the dictionary. This will improve their depth of understanding of the focus words.

**Classroom Management:**

As a whole school approach we will continue to use Greenies and Pinkies in the class. Your child will receive a merit certificate when they have collected 36 Greenies which are equivalent to 6 Pinkies. These are presented at special Merit Award assemblies throughout the term. It is designed to acknowledge and encourage individual positive behaviours.

Inappropriate behaviours are dealt with in a positive way, where the child is spoken to calmly and it is explained how their behaviour is inappropriate. They are then given ways or encouraged to give examples of how they can change that behaviour. Classroom rules are negotiated with the students and referred to regularly to assist in reinforcing positive and appropriate behaviours.

**Library:**

Our library session is on Monday afternoon in period 6. Please make sure your child brings their library bag every Monday. Library bags can be purchased from the school P&C Uniform shop in faction colours. In addition, I allow the children to borrow an additional book from the Library each week which is kept in our classroom library for silent reading.

**Diaries**

I will use your child's diary to relay any messages, notes, achievements or concerns regarding your child. If something has happened at home regarding your child that you think may affect them at school please let me know either in person when dropping off or via the diary. Please document all planned changes to pick up arrangements in the diary. Should you wish to make an appointment to see me, please let me know either in person in the morning or via the diary. The best time to discuss your child's learning at length is during my DOTT times or before and after school.

**Pink Slips**

Should you need to pick your child up early from school or take them to an appointment such as Speech Therapy, it is a requirement that you go via the office to fill in a pink slip. You need to present this to me before you can take your child from the school grounds during the school day.

**Teacher Contact Details:**

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