



# Wheeler Heights Public School

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## Stage 1 Newsletter – 2024 (Years 1 and 2)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Stage 1, 2024. Below you will find a brief overview of what your child or children will be learning about this year. For important information on events and activities and the dates that they will be taking place please refer to the school newsletter.

### Overview of the curriculum:

#### English

This year, Year 2 is working on implementing the English units from the new syllabus. During these units, we will read and write various texts and discuss their purpose and structure. Students will investigate the grammatical features used within the text and focus on the impact of descriptive language. Year 1 students will focus on a variety of texts and investigate their context. The units focus on developing students' skills in a number of areas and we look forward to implementing them over the year.



**News** – We link to the real lives of the children. News topics will be sent home separately. Each child will present news **once per fortnight**. Please note your child's 'News Day' and help them prepare for this. More information will be given at the Meet The Teacher evening.

In **Spelling** – revision of digraphs, syllables, consonants, vowels, initial and final consonant blends are completed in class through explicit lessons and activities. Students focus on spelling generalisations and not rote learning lists. In **Reading** – guided literacy groups will have links to the English units during shared reading and will focus on comprehension skills, fluency, vocabulary and expression. Readers will be changed on Tuesday and Thursday for Year 1 and 2 where possible. In **Writing**, students will focus on the structure of various descriptive styles of text, looking closely at sentence structure and grammar.

#### Mathematics

Students will be working on investigating place value, data, number patterns, 2D shapes & 3D objects, addition & subtraction, multiplication & division, area and fractions. They are encouraged to express their thinking and explain their reasoning.



#### Science

It's another exciting year in the science classrooms with lots of opportunities for hands-on learning. During Term 1 students explore how plants and animals are used for food and fibre products. In Term 2, students learn about sound energy and digital technology. In Term 3, students investigate how materials can be changed and combined. They will also develop solutions for a need or opportunity. During Term 4, students investigate Earth's resources and how we care and use them. If you have any questions regarding science please see Miss Earl who is teaching all Stage 1 classes.

**Sports Uniform**  
Tuesday (Got Game PE)  
Thursday

#### **Library Borrowing**

2B - Tuesday  
2C - Thursday  
2ML - Thursday  
1J - Monday  
1KA - Thursday  
1M - Monday

## **History & Geography**

In history, students investigate how the past, present and future are signified by terms indicating and describing time. We will have a particular focus on how life in schools has changed over time including a special trip to the School House Museum at the end of Term 2. In Geography, students investigate the natural and human features of places. They describe the reasons places change and identify the active role of citizens in the care of places. They learn about how people describe the weather and seasons of places. Students explore activities occurring in places and how the spaces within places can be used for different purposes.

## **Information Technology**

Stage 1 will have weekly sessions in the computer room or on laptops. Students will develop their skills using Microsoft Word, the Google Suite, educational games, typing, coding and learning to correctly use the internet safely.

## **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)**

Our units will explore and emphasise belonging, respect for and appreciation of difference and empathy for others. Students learn about and practice being a good friend and behaviours that protect both themselves and others from bullying. Students are given the knowledge, skills and strategies needed to resolve conflicts effectively and will learn to display an understanding of the Wheeler Way by developing class rules and routines.



This year Stage 1 will also participate in the program Got Game. Pupils will also engage in other sporting activities on Thursdays. Year 1 and Year 2 are to wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

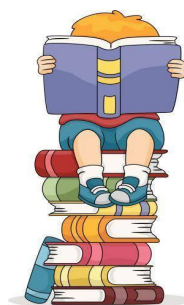
## **Creative Arts**

Visual arts lessons are taught with a focus on our topics for the year. We will explore how and why artworks are created and ways to use and apply visual conventions such as line, shape, colour and texture.

## **Homework**

Homework consists of home reading and a fortnightly news presentation. Research suggests reading each night is the most important part of homework, and students are expected to read for 10-15 minutes per night. If you would like your child to do additional activities, please engage with the online learning program provided by the Department of Education.

<https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/guided-learning-packages>



## **Library**

Students attend weekly library lessons with Mrs Westwood. Please encourage your child to borrow, READ and return books on a weekly basis. We strongly encourage all students to take part in the Premier's Reading Challenge later this year. We will provide further details as they become available.

## **Communication**

Please check the fortnightly school newsletter for upcoming events and ensure you are linked to the correct stage, class and extracurricular groups on Flexischools. A class parent will be allocated as soon as possible to pass on group messages from teachers to parents throughout the year.

All absences must be explained within 7 days of the first absence, either in writing, through the Flexischools app or by phone to the office. Should you require a meeting with your child's teacher, please contact the school by phone or email to organise a time.

Kind Regards,

Mr Bennett (2B), Miss Carter (2C), Mrs McMillan & Mrs Lavermicocca (2ML), Mr Jones (1J), Mrs Kelly & Mrs Alexander (1KA) & Ms McCombie (1M)

Stage One Teachers