

29 January 2019

Dear Parents

Year 1A - Introductory Letter

Welcome to Year 1. My name is Jacqueline Alldis and I have the privilege this year of teaching your child and working in partnership with you. We pray that this year will be full of fun and learning.

There will be a chance to meet together at the Junior School Information Evening on **Tuesday 5 February**, to inform you about this year. However, there are a few things, which would be helpful to organise before this date, so please read the following information carefully.

Parent Help

If you are available this year to help in the classroom, we would greatly appreciate it. Please let us know by filling out the attached form and returning it as soon as possible. Here are the areas of need:

Sharpening Pencils

Usually we ask this to be done twice a week. It can be done before or after school using an electric sharpener.

Cleaning Tables

This is a quick and easy job that could be done weekly by a parent before or after school.

Science Diorama

Towards the end of the term, students will choose a mini-beast to research. After gathering key information, students will construct a diorama that shows the habitat of their chosen mini-beast. We are looking for parents to help students construct their dioramas in the classroom. Help would be required on two afternoons (2.00 – 2.55pm) in Week 10 (first week of April).

Reading Helpers

We have decided not to have parent helpers for reading groups in Term 1. Instead, the teacher will lead groups of children in reading instruction throughout the day. It is envisaged, that along with guiding students with their reading, the teacher will instruct on word attack skills and reading comprehension strategies.

Classroom Information

Library	Wednesday	Mrs Watson	Please bring a library bag for borrowing. Library begins in Week 1.
Art	Tuesday	Mrs Morton	
Music	Thursday	Mrs Alldis Mrs Kohlhoff	Classes are with Mrs Alldis up to and including Week 6. Classes are with Mrs Kohlhoff from Week 7 onwards.
PE	Thursday	Mrs de Wit	Students need to come dressed in Sports Uniform . Please apply sunscreen on these days too.
Sport	Friday	Infants Teachers	Students need to come dressed in Sports Uniform . Please apply sunscreen on these days too.

News

News will take place fortnightly on odd weeks: Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9. This will allow the students to hone their discussion skills during even weeks

Your child's news day will be _____

Additional information

- We are requesting that students bring in their own set of earphones/ earbuds/ headphones to use with the school computers and Ipads. They will be kept at school. Please label the device with your child's name in addition to the bag that they come to school in.
- We ask that students **NOT** bring pencil cases to school. The classroom is equipped with all the stationery items that your child will need.
- For Art and Craft your child will need an art shirt for painting (clearly labelled).
- It would be fantastic if you could provide your child with a **box of tissues** and a **packet of baby wipes** for classroom use.
- Infants Assembly is held on Friday mornings 8.55am - 9.30am in the PAS. Parents are welcome to attend.

Homework

Homework is optional at our school. If you would like your child to complete homework, they will be given spelling words to learn at home. This work will be given out in class on a Monday to be returned the following Friday. In previous years, we have also given out a Maths Mentals book for homework. However, this year we have decided to complete Maths Mentals in class.

Home Readers

It would be wonderful if you, an older sibling, grandparent or friend could listen to your child read every night. The first night helps the child familiarise with the new book and, on the second night, reread the home reader. This helps to develop mastery, which includes fluency, expression and accuracy. We will be changing and monitoring the home readers each week.

Sight Words

We will test the children on their sight words this week. Please do not be alarmed if your child brings home a list that they have previously taken home to learn. If they have not retained words that they learnt last year then we will need to revisit them this year. Feel free to ask us for a list to cut up and make cards or another copy for games. Have fun playing games such as memory, snap and say word, say and keep, etc. Sight words are 'see and say' words. That is, students need to recognise these words immediately, without sounding out or self-correcting.

Each **Friday**, they will be tested on their list. When they can accurately identify the words they will be given a new list of ten words to learn.

Books for 1A

During the week, we will send home the children's textbooks and exercise books. To ensure they last the year, it would be wonderful if you could cover them in **clear** contact and return them to school as soon as possible. If they are sent home and you know that you are unable to cover them for a couple of days, please send them back to school and collect them when you are ready to cover them.

Thank you for your help and support. I am always happy to speak to you about your child's progress or other areas of school life, although I would encourage you to make an appointment with me. By following this procedure, you can be assured that I can give you my undivided attention without the interruptions of general school life.

Please pray for us as a class, that we will keep our focus on Christ and that the year will be fruitful.

Yours in the service of Christian education

Mrs J Alldis
1A Teacher

Mrs J Dykstra
Infants Coordinator

Mr W Morton
Deputy Principal, Junior School



Please complete, detach and return to Mrs Alldis by Monday 4 February 2019.

Parent Helpers – 1A

Parent Name: _____ Child's Name: _____

Contact Numbers: Home _____ Mob _____

Email: _____

I would / would not (*please circle*) like my address and phone numbers included on the class list.

Cleaning Tables

I can clean tables on (*Day*): _____

Sharpening Pencils

I can sharpen pencils before school/ after school on (*Day*): _____

Science – Assisting with Diorama construction (more details will become available closer to the date)

Tick 'yes' if you would like to be contacted about helping with the dioramas later in the term.

YES

Other

I have a skill eg. sewing, and I would like to discuss the opportunity of sharing this with 1A during 2019.

I have completed a **Working with Children Check** and a **Volunteer Code of Conduct** form and I have returned the forms to the School Office.