



**Sutherland
Dianella**
Primary

Parent Information
Booklet

Room B2 - Year 2

Ms Jo Hardiman

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School Vision

Sutherland Dianella Primary School Students are challenged and supported to become confident and independent learners, who achieve their personal best.

Classroom information for parents

Homework

Students will be requested to complete a small amount of homework during the week, Monday to Thursday. Their homework will consist of Mathletics, Spelling and Reading activities. Occasionally they may be asked to complete work that has not been finished in class. They will also be given infrequent research tasks to support their classroom learning. Homework activities are not designed to be time consuming or to cause stress. Parents can withdraw homework on request.

Reading

Students are encouraged to choose their own books for reading. The reading material can be a book from the class collection, a library book or a book from home. The students are encouraged to choose books that are challenging. They can be fiction or non-fiction. They are requested to spend 5 - 10 minutes reading aloud each night. *Quality of reading is more important than the quantity of reading.* The purpose of oral reading is to develop word recognition skills, their understanding of the reading material and fluency. It would be helpful if parents could talk about the book and ask questions to ensure that the child is reading with meaning and understanding. They will record their reading in a log within their homework book and a parent will need to sign this.

Spelling

The students have a chart in their homework book in which they will record their current spelling list words. The words have been taken from class lists and from their own writing. They will be given a range of strategies to choose from to practise their words each night.

Maths

Students will be encouraged to use the Mathletics program each night. They will record their time in a log within their Homework book and this will need to be signed by a parent. The multiplication tables also need to be reinforced at home. Response to these facts needs to be quick and automatic.

Encourage your child to do as much as they can during the week – if they don't finish all the questions it doesn't matter. These activities are not meant to be lengthy or stressful to the student. If homework appears too hard or is causing stress for your child, please don't force it. Write a note in the homework book explaining the situation or come and see me.

My homework philosophy is to consolidate classroom learning and develop a homework routine.

Students are encouraged to do any written work neatly and carefully, using pencils – just as they would do their work in the classroom.

Students need to become responsible for their own homework. They need to bring it to school each day, even if it has not been completed.

By all means help your child with their homework, but please do not do it for them.

Homework hints:

- Arrange a time and place for homework
- Help your child get started by asking about the task
- Always be positive and encouraging – recognise your child's successes and offer praise
- Wait until your child asks for help – give them a chance to attempt it on their own
- Help your child to solve problems – rather than giving the answer straight away
- Show an interest in your child's work
- Try to make it enjoyable
- Leave it if you or your child becomes frustrated

What is happening in B2 this year?

An integrated approach will be adopted in the classroom to develop the understandings and skills of the Eight Learning Areas. Students will be encouraged to develop and extend their knowledge, understanding and skills through their participation in the learning process. A variety of approaches will be used to cater for all individuals to allow them to learn in a way that best suits them and to encourage all to progress along their learning continuum to ensure they each achieve their full potential.

English

The English programme will be administered through a Literacy Block approach. A time will be set aside each day to incorporate Speaking and Listening, Viewing, Reading and Writing into an effective teaching and learning time. Several whole-school approaches including the Key Links Guided Reading program and Talk 4 Writing programs will be utilised.

Maths

All areas of Maths (Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability) will be covered during the year. Students will be working on tasks appropriate to their year and ability level. Problem solving skills will be emphasised to encourage the students to develop a greater understanding of Maths. Instant recall of facts will also be developed, particularly in regards to multiplication tables and addition and subtraction basic facts.

HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences), Technology & Enterprise, Health, Visual Arts/ Media/ Drama

These subjects will be integrated into the class theme and will form a major part of the student's research or project work. They will learn to approach their work using the 'inquiry' approach. The use of technology will be integrated into the learning program in all subject areas.

Social-Emotional Learning

I am a firm believer that when a child's social-emotional learning is high, they have greater academic success and this in turn allows them to gain vital lifelong skills such as empathy, resiliency, confidence and respect. Sutherland Dianella supports social-emotional learning of students through the KidsMatter program, Bounceback program, PATHS program and the school values of Respect, Responsibility, Commitment and Citizenship.

Specialist Teachers:

Phys Ed: Mr Ben Matheson. Throughout the year students will participate in daily fitness, Physical Education lessons and other sporting activities.

Music: Mr Steven Rea. Years 2 to 6 will also have the opportunity to participate in the School Choir.

Science: A whole school Science program will be implemented. In 2017, this program will be run by Mr Tim Goulter, alongside STEM and Science Literacies in the classroom.

Cooperative Learning

Students will be provided with the opportunity to take part in a variety of cooperative learning activities to develop their social skills, their thinking skills and their problem solving skills.

Cooperative learning helps to develop a:

- Love of learning and challenge
- Greater respect for self and others
- Heightened Curiosity
- Responsibility for own learning and behaviour
- Greater acceptance and tolerance of differences
- Increased perseverance and self-discipline
- Greater willingness to contribute

Active Citizenship

Students will be encouraged to develop and demonstrate Active Citizenship within the classroom, the school and the community settings. As a school we are working to help a sister school in Cambodia and during the year students will be given the opportunity to participate in activities to support Kamnap Primary School and the initiatives of the Angkor Project.

Things to remember

- School times: School begins at 8:40am. The classroom will be open by 8:25am to allow students to prepare and get organised for the day. If students arrive at school prior to 8:20am, they will need to wait outside the Administration building NOT outside their classroom. Any children who arrive at the school after the bell will be sent to the office to obtain a late notice.
Recess: 10:55 – 11:15am
Lunch: 12:15 – 1:00pm
School finishes at 3:00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday, school finishes at 2:35pm.
- Crunch & Sip: Students are permitted to bring a drink bottle into the classroom. However, only water will be allowed in the classroom. Every morning students will be permitted to have a fruit and/or vegetable snack break, however the snack must be 'ready to eat' so that it does not become a distraction. As we are an 'allergy aware' school, foods containing nuts will not be allowed in the classroom.
- Library: B2 will be attending the school library weekly. It is the child's responsibility to have their library books and bag each library day. If they do not have a library bag they will not be able to borrow a library book.
- Belongings: Please ensure that all belongings are clearly named. This includes clothing, lunch boxes and classroom equipment.
- Uniforms: Students are expected to wear their school uniform daily. Broad brimmed hats are to be worn throughout the year. The school follows a 'no hat – no play' policy.
- Hair: Please ensure that shoulder length hair is tied back for health reasons.
- Absences: A note is required if your child is absent from school at any time. Please send a note explaining the absence as soon as your child returns to school. It is a child's responsibility to catch up on any work missed.
- Medical Problems: Please let the school know of any medical problems or conditions that may affect your child at school.
- Leaving the School Grounds: If you are picking up your child during the day, you will need to first go to the office to sign out your child.
- Parent Helpers: Throughout the year, parent helpers may be needed in the classroom. Please let me know if you would like to be a parent helper and in which areas you would like to help.

I look forward to your support during the year and trust that your children will have an enjoyable year and will achieve 'only their best'.