

Class Newsletter

Term 1, 2021



5B

January 2021

Dear Parents /Caregivers

Welcome to 5B for 2021. My name is Ms Kim Macleod and I will be your child's class teacher. I have been teaching for over twenty-five years across Metropolitan West, Wide Bay and North Coast Region and this is my third year teaching in the upper school at Geebung State School. I am thoroughly looking forward to working with you and if I have not yet met you please be sure to attend our upcoming information evening and parent interviews throughout the year. My family is Brisbane based and for the first time I no longer have school aged children, my second child graduated year 12 last year.

I believe education is the most powerful tool that you can equip yourself with and use to make changes in our world. I am passionate about ensuring our Department's mantra is upheld; Every Child Succeeding. I believe it is my core business to ensure each child is able to learn and succeed and I hope you will take an active role in your child's educational journey this year.

In relation to homework, I believe it is a time for students to reflect on their class learning and for parents to act as facilitators in this process by providing a structured time and place for this to occur. I do not expect parents to be the experts but you can certainly help your child by asking them clarifying questions and ask them to summarise what they have learnt or even teach you! Homework will be distributed on a Monday, please sign the goal sheet weekly and completed work is to be submitted on a Friday.

Weekly Routine

Monday	9:30 – 10:30 2:00 - 3:00	Problem Solving Hour Japanese
Tuesday	10:00 – 11:00 2:15 – 2:45	Writing Hour Assembly
Wednesday		
Thursday	12:30-1:00	Music
Friday	12:00-12:30	PE/Swimming

REMINDERS

Brain Break

Students may bring a healthy snack every day for brain break at 10am. Fruit and vegetables are accepted.

NO HAT NO PLAY

Students are required to bring their school hat every day.

Drink Bottles

Drink bottles are essential every day of the school year. Students are allowed to leave them in the classroom for easy access.

Library

It is an expectation that all students will borrow from the library each week on a Friday.

Bells

Children are to be lined up when the first bell goes at 8:45am. Parents are to wait in the eating area for collection at the end of the day.

Belongings

Please ensure all jumpers, hats, bags, lunch boxes etc are clearly named to avoid confusion about ownership and so they may be returned if misplaced or left in the classroom.



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Curriculum Term One

This term, your child will be working through units covering English, maths, HASS, science, health, technology and The Arts.

English: Students will be participating in whole school literacy programs to further develop reading and writing skills such as the reading comprehension programs, 'Seven Steps to Writing' and the 'Sound Waves' spelling program. In writing, students will be focusing on narratives. They will examine and deconstruct a fantasy novel and create a 'good' and 'evil' character, and establish setting. Students will also continue to develop their literacy skills in grammar, spelling and punctuation.

MATHS: Students will be learning and investigating mathematical concepts in whole and decimal number, Measurement of time, perimeter and area, chance and data. They will be participating in a weekly problem solving hour, number talks and mini maths focusing on number fact strategies.

HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences): In the unit, 'People and the environment' students will explore how people and environments influence one another. They will examine the characteristics of places in Europe and North Americas in relation to Australia and describe their location at a national scale. Students will organise data, identify simple patterns and trends and be able to draw conclusions about their preferred places to live.

SCIENCE: In the unit, 'Survival in the Environment', students will analyse the structural features and behavioural adaptations that assist living things to survive in their environment. They understand that science involves using evidence and comparing data to develop explanations. Students investigate the relationships between the factors that influence how plants and animals survive in their environments, including those that survive in extreme environments, and use this knowledge to design creatures with adaptations that are suitable for survival in prescribed environments.

HEALTH: In the unit, 'Healthy Habits' students explore the concepts of health and wellbeing and the importance of healthy habits as a preventative measure. They identify good habits and how they contribute to overall health and wellbeing.

TECHNOLOGY: In the unit, 'Harvesting Good Health', students will explore how competing factors and technologies influence the design of a sustainable service that provides a plant for the preparation of a healthy food product.

THE ARTS: In the unit, 'What's the Story', students will create a documentary style film to tell the personal story of someone in the school community. They will explore documentaries and experiment with media technology and collaborative production processes to write a script, storyboard, film, edit, manipulate sound and text to create mood, atmosphere and communicate a point of view.



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BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT:

Expectations for classroom behaviour and work standards are high. The school has developed a behaviour management policy for both the classroom and playground in line with the Departmental Code of Conduct. In all classrooms, the students will learn to self regulate their behaviour and be able to articulate the Zones of Regulation. Students will learn to identify their 'zone' as either blue, green, yellow or red and develop strategies to cope to enable them to maintain or re-establish their 'green zone' for optimal learning potential. In addition, students will also follow the High 5 strategy in the playground.

If your child is unable to manage and self regulate their own behaviour, and it is effecting their learning or the learning of others, they will receive a warning and they will be asked what they need to do in order to be ready for learning. Should the inappropriate behaviours continue they will have time out in the classroom or in a buddy class and if the behaviour escalates Administration will be contacted and they will be referred to the Responsible Thinking Classroom (RTC) in their lunch time or the office. I will notify you at the earliest available time to discuss the inappropriate behaviour and the consequences that followed and work with you and your child to ensure measures are in place to reduce the loss of learning time.

COMMUNICATION:

Please read our school newsletter fortnightly to ensure you are aware of up and coming events. Parent Information sessions will be held in Week 3 on Tuesday 9 February 2021.

Please remember, the door to 5B is always open. If you need to see me for any reason please come and make an appointment, however, mornings are not always convenient as I am usually setting up for the day. I encourage you to contact me first, if you have *any* concerns so we can deal with the issue together. I can be contacted directly or by email kmacl3@eq.edu.au and I will call you immediately if I have any academic or behaviour concerns regarding your child.

I look forward to your support and working in partnership with your child throughout the year.

Yours sincerely

Kim Macleod
Class Teacher

Tracey Douglas
Principal



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