



AVOCA BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Providing opportunities and success in a caring, safe environment

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Stage One Newsletter - Term 2

20th April, 2021

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back to Term 2. We all hope that you were able to enjoy the holiday period and that your kids were able to recharge their batteries, ready for another busy term ahead.

Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews.

Throughout the last two weeks of term, it was great to see many of you back on site and able to participate in parent/ teacher interviews. This was a great way to discuss learning goals and to address any concerns that you may have had regarding your child's academic, social and emotional wellbeing. Please remember that we value ongoing communication and that anytime throughout the year we are only a phone call away. Mornings and afternoons can be busy times for class preparation and professional learning, so making an appointment is the best way to ensure that we can give you the time and attention that is needed.

Key Learning Areas

This term Stage 1 will be focusing on informative texts. We will be researching, investigating and examining mini beasts and various habitats. English, Science and visual arts will all centre around this theme. If you are looking for conversation points about 'What happened at school today?', don't be surprised to hear lots of information!

Library will take a slightly different approach this term. The children will be able to borrow each week and will not require a pencil case. During a part of these lessons, they will be developing their research skills and recording their findings on a digital platform.

On Wednesday and Thursdays all Stage 1 students will engage in fitness/ fundamental movement skills. Sport day will remain on Fridays. Ideally students will wear shoes and uniform that allow them to participate in comfort and with confidence.

Excursions: Year 2 will be heading off to Sydney Zoo on Friday 14th May and Year 1 will explore the Reptile Park the following Friday (21st May). Each of these excursions will support our Science/ Geography and English units. There will be opportunities for parents/carers to come along to supervise a small group of students. Notes will go home for Year 2 this week. Please make sure they are returned as soon as possible so that we can make appropriate arrangements.

Uniform and belongings

This term we swap over to the winter uniform. Please ensure that all clothing is labelled clearly. The lost property box is sometimes overflowing with uniform items and lunch boxes. If items do go missing, this is a good starting place to find them. We really do appreciate students coming to school each day in their uniform.

In Stage 1, students often like to bring their own stationery. The school currently provides lead and coloured pencils, crayons and rulers. A *small* pencil case with a pair of scissors and a glue stick can be helpful, but are not essential.

Home Reading / Homework

Home reading programs and homework will recommence next week. We are pleased that students have been accessing their online e-readers, along with tangible books. Never underestimate the importance of practising reading or being read to.

Home reading should be a pleasurable thing to do. Students should be able to read the text with relative fluency. If you have concerns please contact your child's teacher.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

All students were able to participate in the PBL Rewards afternoon last term. We really hope that they enjoyed their activity that they chose to participate in. Embedded in our school culture is a commitment to building respect, responsibility and personal best. It is these traits that underpin our school values, not just for our students but for all staff and the school community. This term the focus will be on responsibility. Each week there will be an explicit learning opportunity within the classroom. 'Stellars' will be handed out to students in the classroom and playground for demonstrating the school values. We congratulate the students who received 'Respect' awards last term and we look forward to celebrating achievement again this term.

House Families

House families will continue this term. Ask your child to share with you their House Handshake and see if they can name a few students in their family! Our commitment to building a safe, inclusive culture where students feel a sense of belonging remains a focus. With restrictions easing, we look forward to extending our 'house families' by engaging parents and carers into activities. Keep your eye out for opportunities!

Regards

Roxanne Davies
Assistant Principal