

# Term One Newsletter



Mount Mee State school

## Term 1 2022



Welcome back to another exciting year at Mount Mee State School. Over the holidays some exciting new things have appeared in our school. Our number one favourite is our new yarning circle. Why a yarning circle? Because they reflect a very important priority for our school community: Wellbeing. The use of a **yarning circle** is an important process within Aboriginal culture and Torres Strait Islander culture. They have been used for thousands of years to learn from a collective group, build respectful relationships, and to preserve and pass on cultural knowledge. Our yarning circle also reflects our value of **belonging**. The circle started as an idea. It was mentioned one P&C meeting and then, look what happened! Our circle was a gift from many. Thank you to everyone who contributed time and product to ensure that we have a special way to BE together, share our culture and collaboratively solve our problems.

### What will Term One look like?

This is the million dollar question! We have planned for our term as usual. We have had to condense our units of work to ensure that we can complete them in a shorter time frame. We are ready.

If COVID-19 behaves as expected we may have some curve balls thrown at us. The region has helped us to formulate plans to support the smooth running of our schools. We have many covid-safe routines in place with a focus on masks, hygiene, social distancing and monitoring of symptoms. It is imperative that children and adults with symptoms stay home.

**Mission:**  
*Prepare young people to lead successful and productive lives.*

### Values

*Wonder*

*Integrity*

*Connection*

*Excellence*

*Dedication*

# 2022 Term One Curriculum for P/1

## English

We will be reading lots of lovely books this term. We have even bought some beautiful new books written by First Nations people. This will help to ensure that we include the perspectives of our First Nations people in our learning and day to day life. While we are reading these books, we will be identifying what the features of characters are so that we can create a beautiful character description.

## Maths

The Preps and Year Ones will have many mathematical concepts in common this term however they will be working with different numbers. Preps will be working to very nimble with numbers to 20 and Year 1's with numbers to 100. Both year levels will be working with measurement as they explore sequencing, the calendar and comparing the size of objects. Preps will also be working on describing the location of objects whilst Year 1's will be conducting surveys and exploring chance situations.

## Phonics and Phonemic Awareness

There is a very heavy focus on understanding the sounds of our language. Children will be exploring rhyming words and the parts of words. We will all be revising or learning letter choices for sounds through the Jolly Phonics System. Year 1's will be extended to start learning that there is more than one spelling choice for the sounds we make. There is no formal spelling homework for this Term.

## Handwriting

We will be again using the Casey the Caterpillar method of writing letters. It helps to give children a story to tie their letter formation to. If your child comes home and uses language such as: short stick and possum tail, you can bet they are talking about Casey the Caterpillar!

## Science

In Science Mr L will be helping us to learn about our living world. The Preps will have a special focus on using their senses to observe the needs of living things, both animals and plants. We want them to understand that observing is an important part of science and that scientists discuss and record their observations. The Year Ones will be focussing on making links between external features of living things and the environments in which they live. They will be considering how the needs of living things are met in a variety of habitats.

## Music

Our new Music teacher Mrs Kirk, will be teaching us a unit of work called: Music in Our New World. We will be exploring fiction and non-fiction books and everyday texts as stimulus for music making and responding. We will also be practising songs for performance. Hopefully we will have something extra to show at the Easter Bonnet Parade this year.

Note: Mrs Kirk visits us every second week. She comes on the even weeks of term.

## PE

In PE Mrs Marks will be supporting us to get fit in preparation for Cross Country as well as working on a unit of work called: Catch me if you can. The kids will be developing the fundamental movement skills of dodging and running and test alternatives to evade others and objects in tagging games. They will explore positive ways to interact with others, including strategies to work in groups and play fairly during tagging games.

## LOTE

Fraser Sensei is working with us every Friday. The Preps will be getting to know Japan through lots of fun activities and the Year 1's will be building a personal mascot. Doesn't sound to tricky, but it does when you realise they will be doing this stuff in JAPANESE!

## Design Technologies

I cant wait for this one! We will be almost PLAYING! Our unit is called: It's **showtime!** We are going to explore the characteristics and properties of materials and components that are used to produce designed solutions. They will design and make a puppet with moving parts to use in a puppet show.

## Health

In Health we will be joining a Year 1 unit with a Prep unit. Together they are perfect for the beginning of the year. We will be learning about our personal capabilities. It is good to know what we can do, what we can safely have a go of, even if we don't succeed and what we are not ready for yet. We will also be finding out about each other so that we can find ways that we belong in our classroom and our school.

## Pause program

The Pause program is one of our major wellbeing strategies. In this program the children learn about their brain. They learn the parts of the brain and their roles in helping us to participate in life. Knowing these things helps us to manage our feelings. From our feelings comes our thoughts and actions. Being able to interpret what is going on for us helps us to make positive choices about the way we think and act.

## Library

Library day is Wednesday

## Homework

Home work will start straight away for the Preps with their Jolly Phonics homework. Year 1 homework will start the week later. Information will come home with their homework.

