



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL (Relieving)

### **Welcome Back Everyone!**

To all our students and families, I welcome you to 2021 at Mount DrUITT Public School. We are all looking forward to a year of growth and achievements. In partnership with parents and the community we can all work together to ensure our academic, wellbeing and teaching targets are achieved to maximise student growth and attainment.

### **Mr Kelly on Leave**

Mr Kelly is on leave for term 1.

### **School Crossing**

Parents and students please use the school crossing. Although it is an extra two minute walk, it saves a trip to the hospital. Students and adults have been hit by cars on Belmore Avenue.

### **Dealing with Conflicts**

Occasionally there will be an issue or conflict in the playground that your child tells you about. Please make sure you discuss this with your child's teacher. Do not approach other parents or students in the playground as this can be intimidating.

### **School Plan**

The school is currently working on the new 4 year school plan. Parent input will be required shortly. I look forward to speaking to parents about any ideas they have moving forward.

### **COVID Tutoring Program**

The COVID tutoring program is new in 2021 and targets students that may have learning gaps due to the effects of COVID on their education. It will run for 10 weeks. Our instructional leaders and teachers have analysed reading and numeracy data to identify students who would benefit from this intervention. Staff have been trained in a number of programs to boost reading comprehension and mental computation. You will receive a letter if your child is included in this program.

## Reduced Student Numbers

Student numbers have decreased this year to 553. We have decided to keep classes the same, however, it will mean that we will not have as many teachers to cover classes when teachers are sick or away. As a consequence it may mean that classes are split more often. Split lists for parents will be posted on the classroom door however we will endeavour to bring students back to class before 3pm to allow students to be picked up from their own classroom.

## KC Moving Temporarily

KC will be moving temporarily to the home reading room so that renovations can be done. Hopefully this disruption will only be for a short period of time.

## 3/4E Change of Teacher

Mr Edlebi will be working part time due to other commitments and will no longer be able to take 3/4E. Miss Imtiaz will be teaching the class as of Monday, week 5.

## School Contributions

School contributions are voluntary however the school does rely on these to purchase much needed resources that cannot be provided for under the budget that is provided to the school. Contributions are low at Mount Druitt Public School:

1 child = \$20

More than 1 child = \$30

## New Multi-Cat Classes

Welcome to our new students and families. We are so excited to have you join our community at MDPS. The new students are so settled and doing very well thanks to the wonderful commitment of our relieving Assistant Principal Mrs Rawat and our relieving Teacher Mrs Dayman.

## Homework Policy

Parents will soon have access to the new homework policy and be given the opportunity to give feedback and suggestions.

## Uniforms

The new school uniforms are available to purchase in sizes 4 to 10. Larger sizes will be made available next term. New school uniform will not be mandatory until 2022. Uniform shop open on site 8:00 am – 8:50 am only.



## Class Dojo

Class dojo is our main form of communication between parents and teachers. Please download this app and ask your child's teacher for a login. This was very useful during COVID home learning and we hope to continue to keep the lines of communication open to parents and caregivers.

## New Award System

A new Bronze, Silver, Gold and Principal's Star award system is starting soon. Students will need to earn in this order:

- 2 Bronze ⇒ 2 Silver ⇒ 2 Gold to be eligible for a Principal's Star award.

Awards will be given for PBL, attendance, uniform and teacher choice.

## Thank You Mount Druitt Rotary Club

A big thank you to the Rotary Club of Mount Druitt for their very kind donation of pencil cases to all our students containing some basic stationary items such as lead pencils, a ruler, coloured pencils, an eraser, texta's, biro's, scissors, glue and a sharpener. Each year the Rotary Club donates something that helps our students out. We appreciate their help and support.



*Dianne Uthmeyer*

Principal (Relieving)

Term 1 Week 4 2021

## FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

### Medication

Please be advised if you require office staff to give your child prescribed medication for a short term period we will need the following:

- ✓ A signed and written letter from the parent.
- ✓ The letter must clearly state the amount of medication eg: 5 ml of liquid or 1 tablet.
- ✓ The letter must also state the required time the child is to take the medication.

If your child needs on-going medication then we will need a healthcare plan from your GP. Please see office staff if you require more information.

### Preschool Fees

Preschool fees have been waived by the Department of Education for 2021. No fees are to be paid until 2022. Please contact the office if you have already paid fees this year.

### School Gates Closed

For the safety of our students we have decided to close all the gates except the front office gate. This gate is closed but not locked. Gates will be closed between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Daily. Access to the school during those times will be by appointment only via the gate closest to the front office. Preschool parents and carers can access the school but must drop off and go. All other visitors are by appointment only. We are looking at the costs of an intercom system with a magnetic lock to buzz parents onto school grounds however for now if you do visit the school please shut the gate behind you.

### COVID Safe Check-in

Please check in before entering the school premises. We're helping keep our community COVID safe by recording contact details to assist in contact tracing. QR codes are at the front gates and throughout the playgrounds. If you require assistance please go to the front office for check-in. Please maintain social distancing and do not stay on school grounds unless urgent. Students should be dropped off and collected quickly.





## TERM OVERVIEW – EARLY STAGE 1

ENGLISH	<p><b>Reading:</b> Each week the class teacher will be reading with your child on at least 3 separate occasions. Students will be put into groups to read with the teacher based upon their ability. We encourage children to read at home and parents/carers to read to children on a regular basis. Students will be learning to read more complex books with our main focus on teaching students to use decoding skills when reading.</p> <p><b>Writing:</b> Students will be learning to put their thoughts into sentences. Students will be responding to imaginative and informative texts. Teachers will be focusing on building the student's ability to write down their ideas in sentences. A focus will be on rereading written work to ensure student's writing makes sense. Students will be engaged with and responding to quality texts while developing their comprehension skills.</p>
MATHEMATICS	<p>Students will be developing their mathematical thinking and skills in a range of areas:</p> <p><b>Whole number:</b> Count, order, read and represent numbers to 30.</p> <p><b>Addition:</b> Adding two amounts together and counting a total.</p> <p><b>Subtraction:</b> Use concrete materials or fingers to solve subtraction problems.</p> <p><b>Patterns and Algebra:</b> Recognise, describe, and repeat a pattern.</p> <p><b>Time:</b> Tell time (o'clock) using digital and analog clocks</p> <p><b>2D Space:</b> Sort and describe different shapes.</p> <p><b>Data:</b> Represent and interpret data.</p> <p><b>Length:</b> Use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer.</p>
SCIENCE & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES	<p>Physical World focuses on the physical characteristics of objects and the effects of these on how they move. Students will describe how objects move and observe the effects of push and pull forces. Students will also identify familiar digital systems and follow a simple set of instructions.</p>
GEOGRAPHY	<p>Students will be learning about different places people live, how to locate a place and learn how to care for those places. Students will identify familiar places and recognise why some places are special or important to people and how they care for them. Students will recognise that places can be represented on maps.</p>
CREATIVE ARTS	<p><b>Music:</b> This term students will sing, play and move to a range of music. They will experiment with sounds using their voices, body percussions and instruments. Students will be introduced to the concepts of music dynamics, duration and pitch.</p>
PDHPE	<p>Students will identify personal strengths and how people grow. They will learn to recognise and distinguish emotional responses that people experience in different situations and are provided with opportunities to practise interpersonal skills to interact positively with others. In Physical Education, students will be engaged in a range of activities focusing on building fundamental skills while making active choices.</p>

### HOME READING

Students are encouraged to borrow books from our home reading room located in the hub. Home reading is open every day 8.30am to 8.50am. Parents/carers are encouraged to take their child to the home reading room to borrow books.

### SIGHT WORD RINGS

All Kindergarten students received a word ring with their weekly sight words to practise at home. This term, students will need to bring their word rings to school every **Monday** to receive their **new words** for the week. Term words will be added each Monday, so students can gradually practise and build their knowledge of new words.

If you have any concerns, please make an appointment to see your child's classroom teacher or Miss O'Kelly (Kindergarten Assistant Principal).

## TERM OVERVIEW – STAGE 1

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<p><b>Phonics and Spelling:</b> Students will be introduced to a new phonics/blend of the week and a list of spelling words.</p> <p><b>Reading:</b> Class teachers will be reading with each student at least three times a week.</p> <p><b>Writing:</b> We are learning to write an imaginative text. We will be reading and analysing a range of engaging picture books. Students will develop their skills to write a coherent imaginative text that is well-structured and draws on their own experiences, their imagination, and ideas they have learned.</p>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<p>Students will be learning about the following mathematical concepts:</p> <p><b>Number and Algebra</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole Number</li> <li>• Patterns and Algebra</li> <li>• Addition and Subtraction</li> </ul> <p><b>Measurement and Geometry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Length</li> <li>• Volume and Capacity</li> <li>• 3D Space</li> </ul> <p><b>Statistics and Probability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data</li> </ul>
<b>SCIENCE &amp; DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES</b>	<p>We are focusing on the 'Physical World' which focuses on the identification of light, sound and heat energy, and how they are sensed and produced. Students develop their understanding of forces and energy and how these can be used for specific purposes in products.</p> <p>Students will also be developing their basic computer skills in the Computer Room.</p>
<b>HISTORY/ GEOGRAPHY</b>	<p>Students explore places across a range of scales within Australia and Australia's location in the world. They describe connections people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, have with places, both locally and globally. Students identify factors affecting people's accessibility to places. Their knowledge of this topic will be developed further through lessons in the Library.</p>
<b>CREATIVE ARTS</b>	<p>Students sing, play and move to music, demonstrating an awareness of their own capability in using voice and other sound sources. They organise sounds into simple structures and begin representing creative ideas symbolically.</p>
<b>PDHPE</b>	<p><b>Personal, Development and Health:</b> <i>How can we be inclusive and respectful?</i> Students explore their sense of self and the factors that contribute to and influence their identity. They learn about emotions, how to enhance their interactions with others.</p> <p><b>Physical Education:</b> <i>What are the different ways we can move our body?</i> Students are provided with opportunities to learn through movement. They will learn a range of locomotor skills and object control skills. They will develop the ability to use learnt skills individually and in team situations.</p>

### LIBRARY

Students will visit the library once a week. We strongly encourage students to borrow from the library. To borrow, they will need a library bag which is available to purchase from the Library for \$2.

### HOME READING

Students are strongly encouraged to borrow books from our Home Reading room. It is open daily from 8:30am-8:50am. Parents are encouraged to take their child to the Home Reading room. If you require your child's reading level, please speak with your child's classroom teacher.

### HOMEWORK

Stage 1 students will be given homework each Monday. The work reflects what we are learning in the classroom. Homework is due each Friday.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with your child's teacher, or book an appointment with the Miss Burnard (Rel. Stage 1 Assistant Principal).

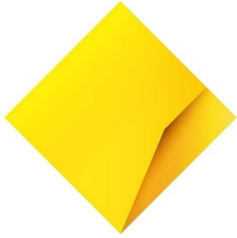
## TERM 1 OVERVIEW – STAGE 2

ENGLISH	<p>This term, Stage 2 are developing their writing skills as they learn to compose persuasive texts. They are continuing to develop their understanding of the Seven Steps of Writing techniques. Students will continue to read with teachers on a weekly basis and develop their comprehension skills. All students are encouraged to borrow from the home reading and the school library.</p>
MATHEMATICS	<p>This term students will continue to refine their mathematical thinking and number sense skills. Students will work on problem solving throughout different strands of Numeracy. Students will focus on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addition &amp; Subtraction</li> <li>• Multiplication &amp; Division</li> <li>• Fractions and Decimals</li> <li>• Length</li> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Mass</li> </ul>
SCIENCE & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES	<p>In science this term, students are learning about Forces. They are learning that objects move as a result of a push or pull energy. Students will understand that forces can be made by direct and non- direct energies by exploring gravitational fields and magnetism. We will also be exploring how forces are used and interact in a product or system.</p>
HISTORY	<p>This term in history, students in stage 2 will investigate the reasons behind the great journeys of exploration. Students will be learning about what life was like for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Peoples before their first contacts with European explorers. They will learn about the diversity of language groups and consider ATSI People's long connection to Country.</p>
CREATIVE ARTS	<p>This term students in stage 2 will be learning about two particular artists in detail. They will learn to appreciate the artworks of Van Gough and Claude Monet, discussing and learning about their art techniques and the elements of art. In doing so, students will be creating and making Van Gogh's Starry night and a 3D Water Lily inspired artwork by Claude Monet.</p>
PDHPE/Sport	<p>In PE, Stage 2 will be developing skills in a range of sports and games in our 'What Makes a Good Team?' program. Lessons allow students to demonstrate fair play and skills to work collaboratively. Students will apply and adapt strategies and tactics when participating in individual and team activities.</p> <p>In PDH, Stage 2 will be explaining and using strategies to develop resilience and to make each other feel comfortable and safe in our 'Who Am I?' program. Lessons will promote understanding and skills important for building respectful relationships, enhancing personal strengths and exploring personal identity.</p>

## TERM 1 OVERVIEW – STAGE 3

ENGLISH	<p>This term, stage 3 are studying the unit: 'Uniquely me'</p> <p>This unit explores the various cultures from around the world and how these cultures impact one's identity. The unit is integrated with Geography: A Diverse and Connected World and PDH: 'The influences on identity'.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students read, view and compose texts that explore and represent the differing cultures across the world, particularly around customs, beliefs and social organisation.</li> <li>2. Explore, read, view, respond and compose texts that focus around interculturalism- immersion into another culture</li> <li>3. Explore, read, view, respond and compose texts that promotes inclusion, empathy and respect to others of differing culture, or belief systems</li> </ol>
MATHEMATICS	<p>This term, stage 3 will be studying the following substrands: M-Pre-assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole Number</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Addition and Subtraction</li> <li>• Multiplication and Division</li> <li>• Length</li> <li>• Fractions and Decimals</li> <li>• Volume and Capacity</li> </ul> <p><i>How can you help?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have your child learn their times tables to 10. This will support them in the various sub strands above, not just multiplication.</li> <li>2. Learn addition facts up to 50</li> <li>3. Learn subtraction facts from 50 and below</li> <li>4. Learn to add and subtract money in cents and dollars</li> </ol>
SCIENCE & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES	<p>This term, Stage 3 will be learning about the Physical World. This strand focuses on the difference between contact and non-contact forces and how energy is transformed from one form to another. Students will be provided with an opportunity to investigate how electrical energy can control movement in products and systems. It will develop students' abilities to design, test and evaluate a product or system that demonstrates energy transformation, further developing an understanding of the interrelationship between force and energy. Students will further investigate how electrical energy can be transferred and transformed in electrical circuits and can be generated from a range of sources. They will learn how to design, test and evaluate a product or system that involves an energy transformation to meet an identified need using electrical energy.</p>
GEOGRAPHY	<p>This term during Geography, Stage 3 will conduct in-class investigations to answer the following inquiry questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do places, people and cultures differ across the world?</li> <li>• What are Australia's global connections?</li> </ul> <p>Students will explore countries of the Asia region and the connections Australia has with other countries across the world. As they engage with various countries, students learn about the diversity of the world's people, including the indigenous peoples of other countries. Throughout the unit, students will explore and reflect upon similarities, differences and the importance of intercultural understanding.</p>
CREATIVE ARTS	<p>In Creative Arts and Performing Arts, students will be focusing on enhancing their visual arts techniques throughout the term. Students will be taking inspiration from different artists and art styles. Throughout the term, students will learn how to appropriately critic their own artwork as well as their peers.</p>
PD/H/PE	<p>PE Unit overview: <i>A world of games</i></p> <p>Students will learn to build positive relationships by participating in a variety of physical activities that are fun and challenging. They will perform specialised movement skills and sequences that are required and relevant to actively participate in three of the 2021 Olympic events. This unit aims to encourage students to work together as well as independently in order to apply, adapt and develop movement skills with confidence. All activities endeavour to engage students while providing opportunities for them to select, manipulate and modify movement concepts, strategies and tactics to achieve movement outcomes, solve movement challenges whilst developing positive relationships between students and their peers.</p> <p>In PD/H, stage 3 will be studying 'The influence on identity'. Key learning requires the students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify and apply strengths and strategies to manage life changes and transitions</li> <li>• evaluate the impact of empathy, inclusion and respect on themselves and others</li> </ul>





## Can you volunteer? We need your help with the School Banking program!

Our students really enjoy participating in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program and to keep this program running we need your help.

The program requires a volunteer School Banking Co-ordinator to facilitate the banking and distribution of School Banking rewards. The School Banking is processed at the same time each week and will only take a small amount of your time. The Commonwealth Bank will provide support in how to run the program. Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they practice saving skills and also help our school with fundraising.

As part of volunteering you are eligible to receive a Certificate of Attainment that details the activities that you are involved in. For example: cash handling, program facilitation, account reconciliation and more.

Currently, School Banking day is **Friday**

If you are interested in volunteering for this great program, please contact **the front office for more details.**

