



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Puntunya kuu – Goanna room

Term 3 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 3! We hope you and your families had a restful and enjoyable break. As we start this new term, we are filled with excitement and anticipation for the months ahead. This term, we will continue to foster a positive and engaging learning environment where each student can thrive and develop a strong sense of identity and community. One of the highlights of this term is Book Week in Week 5. It is a time when we celebrate the joy and importance of reading. We have a range of activities planned to encourage a love for reading and literacy among our students. I encourage you to join us in these celebrations and support your child's reading at home. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns. We look forward to working together to make Term 3 a memorable and productive time for all our students.

Classroom Organisation

The classroom door will be open at 8:50am for students to unpack and organise equipment and be sitting down ready to start their lesson at 8:50am.

This year your class teachers are Naier Xu and Penny Symons.

Naier will be teaching in lessons Mondays: 3-6 Tuesdays: 1-6 Wednesdays: 2 – 6 and Thursdays: 2-6

Penny will be teaching lessons Mondays: 1-2 Wednesdays: 1 Thursdays:1 and Fridays: 1-6

Swimming will be fortnightly on Tuesdays – see the swimming timetable for your child's swimming day.

Homework

While we do not set homework it is available upon request for disability unit students.

Communication Details

Naier.Xu95@schools.sa.edu.au

Penelope.Symons159@schools.sa.edu.au

Any notes/concerns can be communicated through email, Class Dojo or a phone call. We understand at times, that there may be concerns regarding your child; this is best communicated to me via the above email address.

Riverdale utilises the Audiri App and Facebook as platforms for sharing essential school-wide information and significant dates. Furthermore, we will ensure that comprehensive school-wide information is distributed to students in paper form. For classroom-specific communications, we continue to use Class Dojo. Kindly stay attuned to these channels for ongoing updates and relevant details.

Important Information

Week 1:

Week 2:

Tuesday – School Photos

Week 3:

Week 4:

Monday – Pupil Free Day

Friday – School Disco

Week 5:

Friday – Book Week Parade

Week 6:

Tuesday – Footsteps program begins

Friday – Wear it Purple Day

Week 7:

Week 8:

Thursday - R U Ok? Day, Casual Day

Week 9:

Week 10:

Friday - Term 3 Concludes 2pm

Mathematics

This term, our numeracy curriculum will continue to grow through daily math chats and focused math units. Each day, we will engage students in 7 to 8 mini tasks through daily math chat to develop their number and counting skills. A key focus is helping students subitise, or quickly recognise, small numbers. Our math units will cover concepts of quantity and part-part-whole, starting with numbers up to five. By concentrating on these smaller numbers, students can build a strong foundational understanding before moving on to larger quantities. This slower, deliberate pace allows students to grasp whole numbers and their parts, which is essential for their overall number sense development.

Literacy

This term our literacy unit topic is on communicating feelings and building skills for listening and speaking. Students will learn about active listening, identifying and exploring feelings as well as making personal connections to texts. Our phonics program will continue to follow the Department for Education teaching sequence. It will also include the Heggerty program to increase student's phonological awareness. All students will continue to work on their personalised literacy One Plan goals.

HASS

This term we will be introducing the basics of Economics to our students. Our goal is to help students understand the fundamental concepts of wants versus needs, and to learn about money, how it is earned, and how it is used to purchase goods and services.

How to Help at Home:

Discuss Wants and Needs: Talk with your child about the difference between wants and needs during daily activities, such as grocery shopping or planning family outings.

Play Money Games: Use play money to practice recognising coins and notes, and engage in pretend play involving buying and selling.

Assign Simple Chores: Give your child small tasks or chores and reward them with a small allowance to help them understand the concept of earning money.

Encourage Saving: Create a savings jar at home where your child can save a portion of their allowance or any money they receive.

Involve Them in Budgeting: Involve your child in simple budgeting decisions, like planning a family meal or a small outing, to teach them about managing money.

Science

This term, we will be exploring the fascinating world of geology, specifically focusing on volcanoes and earthquakes. Our goal is to understand how these powerful natural events shape our planet and affect the environment and human life. We will start by exploring what lies beneath the surface of the earth, moving on to how volcanoes form and how new land is created through volcanic eruptions. We will then delve into understanding what earthquakes are, what causes them, and the impact they can have on the land and people.

Health & PE

This term, our students will continue to enhance their basic personal care skills and learn to express their basic needs, likes, and dislikes. They will also work on developing important social skills such as turn-taking and sharing. A key focus for us will be helping students recognise and express their feelings. During PE lessons, students will explore their surroundings and learn to move mindfully and safely through yoga and mindfulness activities. One of our main goals is for students to follow simple movement instructions and observe safety rules during these structured physical activities.

The Arts/Auslan

In Term 3, students will explore process art, which focuses on the creative process rather than the final product. We will plan a variety of open-ended activities for students to touch, feel, and interact with different textures, colours, and shapes. Our goal is to encourage students to express their thoughts and ideas in their own unique way.

We will continue to develop our understanding of Auslan through morning circle and daily routines. By learning basic signs, students will improve their communication abilities and contribute to a more inclusive classroom environment.

Kind Regards

*Naier Xu
Penny Symons
Room 1.4*