



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Year 5/6

Kardi kuu – Emu (male) room (W1 & W2)

Term 1 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Caregivers

What a fantastic launch into Term 1, 2024! We are incredibly proud of the way our students have embraced their new learning space.

This year we are thrilled to have 3 full-time teachers working across the Year 5/6 cohort; Sandra Conn, Stephanie Mertzanidis and Ciaran Whittaker. All teachers will be teaching across the subject areas of English and Maths, while also taking on another subject area; Science (Ciaran), HASS (Steph) and Technologies (Sandra). Feel free to come and have a chat with us if you have any questions about this.

“Welcome back! I am excited to see some familiar faces from last year, as well as the new Year 5’s that will be joining us. I look forward to a successful and enriching school year ahead.” – Stephanie Mertzanidis

“Welcome to a new school year! I am very enthusiastic about our learning journey this year. New classroom, new students and those students who got to know me last year. Let’s go for more in 2024!” – Sandra Conn

“Welcome to all our students as they return for another great year, I am looking forward to seeing some familiar faces and getting to know the new Year 5’s that will be joining our classes. I hope that as a Year 5/6 team we can have a fantastic year and grow together as both people and learners.” – Ciaran Whittaker

Classroom Organisation

Teachers will collect students from the courtyard when the bell rings at 8:50am and walk them down to the houses. We ask that students remain in the courtyard until teachers collect them, as this is the only supervised area in the morning.

Communication Details

Stephanie.Mertzanidis615@schools.sa.edu.au,

Ciaran.Whittaker22@schools.sa.edu.au

Sandra.Conn827@schools.sa.edu.au

Any notes/concerns can be communicated to us through email, Class Dojo or a phone call. As we have three teachers this year, we will be combining our Class Dojo; allowing each teacher to be able to read and reply to any questions. If you need to reach a specific teacher; this is best communicated to us via the above email addresses or a phone call to the school.

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 2: Curriculum Program begins

Week 4: Acquaintance Night

Week 5: Year 5/6 Leader’s Days & Year 6 Aquatics

Week 6: Pupil Free Day

Week 7: Public Holiday, NAPLAN (Year 5)

Week 8: Harmony Day

Week 9: Sports Day, Easter

Week 10: Easter, Parent Teacher Interviews

Week 11: Term 1 Concludes 2.00pm (Friday)

Absences

An explanation via **note**, **ClassDojo**, **email**, our **Audiri** app or a **phone call** to the school office (**82817166**) must be provided for **EVERY** day your child is late or absent from school.

If there is no explanation you will be contacted by text, telephone or letter to discover why your child is not at school.

This is a legal requirement and these processes have been put in place for the protection of all children.

Mathematics

Students will develop their understanding of multiplication patterns and how to identify and describe factors and multiples. They will solve problems involving division by a single-digit number including those resulting in a remainder. They will recognise, represent and order numbers to at least hundreds of thousands and solve problems involving multiplication of large numbers by 1 or 2-digit.

Literacy

This term students will listen to, read, view and analyse literary and non-literary texts on the same topic. They will explore and evaluate topics with key messages conveyed through both literary (imaginative) and non-literary (informative) texts, including informative websites. Students accurately identify the author's purpose and analyse similarities and differences in texts. They compare and analyse the effectiveness of each text in its ability to deliver a message. Students write arguments that persuade others to a particular point of view using evidence of specific structural and language features identified during the unit.

HASS- Geography

Year 5: students are introduced to the influencing factors that shape the diverse characteristics of different places and how people, places and environments are interconnected.

Year 6: students will learn about the geographical diversity of places, people and cultures across the world with a focus on countries within the Asian region.

Science

Year 5: Students will describe key processes that change the Earth's surface. Students plan safe investigations to identify patterns and relationships and make reasoned predictions. Students will construct representations to organise data and information and describe patterns, trends and relationships.

Year 6: Students will model the relationship between the sun and planets of the solar system and explain how the relative positions of Earth and the sun relate to observed phenomena on Earth.

Technologies

In digital technologies this term the students will generate and record design ideas for specified audiences using appropriate technical terms, and graphical and non-graphical representation techniques including algorithms. They will plan, design, test, modify and create digital solutions that meet intended purposes including user interfaces and a visual program.

Health & PE

This term during the PE/Health program your child will experience and explore various skills/techniques, rules and concepts involved with a range of sports and games.

PE: Movement techniques, throw, catch, run, dodge, jump and spatial awareness

Health: identify how different situations influence emotional responses

The Arts

Welcome to the Arts 2024! This term, students will be working on visual art. The main focus for students this term is wellbeing and identity. They will be engaging with self-portraits and exploring what is important to them. We will also be looking at a variety of artists across the term and we are lucky enough to have an artist from Carclew come out and run a workshop for our students! Choir will also be starting this term for any students who are interested in participating. It will be run on Fridays in lesson one. More information will be available soon!

Auslan

Welcome to Auslan 2024! Student focus for this term will be identity and how language affects our identity! This will intertwine with the work we are doing in the arts surrounding identity. Students will learn to describe themselves using Auslan and will explore their family backgrounds and what is important to them.

Kind Regards,

*Stephanie Mertzanidis, Ciaran
Whittaker and Sandra Conn*