



MACKNADE STATE SCHOOL

Strive to excel

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

Be A Good Learner

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Newsletter Issue 1 – Week 1, 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the 2019 school year! I trust everybody had a restful holiday and all our students are ready and prepared to continue their learning journey.

This year our class consists of Prep-6 with no Prep enrolments at the time of writing this newsletter. We have 15 students and I have enjoyed welcoming our junior students into my classroom. I have put a lot of effort into timetabling all our lessons to ensure that every curriculum area meets the recommended time allocation. Let the learning begin.

Mrs Zullo is at our school two days a week until Day 8 numbers are finalized and we receive our staffing allocation from Regional Office. Mrs Geaney and Mrs Jensen will support students in the P-6 classroom and Mrs Morris is away on sick leave until the end of week 5.

Trish Phillips is *Acting* in the role of BSM replacing Mrs Fichera until she returns from long service leave in week 2, not week 7 as originally planned.

Ms Mariani has had a little accident over the holidays and she hopes to be returning to us in the capacity of Italian teacher in week 2. On that note, **Year 4** students will be participating in **LOTE** this year.

From 2020, the Australian Curriculum requires all Prep-6 students to learn a language other than English. Implementing this curriculum area to Year 4 students in 2019 will give them a head start on their peers. Mrs Mariani has recorded a lesson for week 1 so learning went ahead as per our timetable.

School Improvement Priorities 2019

The *2019 Macknade State School Annual Implementation Plan*, sets out our school improvement priorities for the next 12 months. We are continuing with our agenda from 2018 to **improve writing** outcomes for all students. The *Whole School Writing Program* that was implemented during 2018, will be continued for the entirety of this year. Students receive regular feedback on their writing and all students will have learning goals to ensure they continue to demonstrate growth, and experience successful learning. The 2019 AIP will be tabled at the first P&C Meeting.

Key Dates this semester are as follows:

1. State Principal's Conference, Brisbane, 25-27 February.
2. NAPLAN 14-16 May
3. Book Fair week of 31 May
4. QASSP Conference 5-7 June

CHANGES to SCHOOL ROUTINES

End of Day

At 3pm, students will be dismissed from the classroom and walk themselves to the gate. Parents are welcome to either collect their child/ren at the gate or wait for them at the bottom of the stairs. A staff member will supervise bus children inside until they are escorted to the bus at pickup time.



Lunch Hours

Due to our Year 4, 5 and 6 students' enrolment in *Digital Technology* for Semester 1, *Solve It - Numeracy* and *Critical Thinking* (English) lessons, some changes were necessary to accommodate these lessons.



They are:

Mondays' second lunch will be
1.00pm -1.30 pm [not 1.30-2pm]

Wednesdays' first lunch will be:
10.45 -11.30 am [not 11.00am-11.45 am]



Assemblies are *every second Monday*
beginning Week 2
2.45 -3 pm.

UPDATE PERSONAL DETAILS

If any family has had a change to their personal details, please advise the school office to ensure we update OneSchool. Also please ensure any students on asthma plans, have an up-to-date plan for their medication.

SCHOOL LEADERS



Our two school leaders Hannah and Alicia are both excited to be wearing their senior shirts from the first day of school. To Hannah and Alicia, I offer the words of a Chinese Proverb; ***A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.*** May you both enjoy the journey of 2019 and find it is just the beginning of what the world has on offer.



WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY

Thank you Graham for organising a massive clean-up of the jungle that divides the school and residence. There is now a clear line of sight from the classrooms to the road, and far fewer hidey-holes for wriggly crawly creatures.

Australian Curriculum

Information sheets on what students will be learning in each subject area, has been attached to this newsletter for parents information.

English - Years 1-3

The first English unit is *Reading, Writing and Performing Poetry*. This is a Year 2 unit of work and is adjusted up for Year 3 and down for Year 1, to ensure the

achievement standards match their relevant year levels.

English – Years 4-6

The first English unit is *Short Stories*. This is a Year 6 unit of work adjusted down for Years 4 and 5 to ensure the achievement standards match their relevant year levels.

Mathematics

Students are studying Mathematics according to the *Small Schools Curriculum Framework* designed for ease of delivery in small school settings. The topics studied in Term 1 are Time, Money and Data.

HASS

Mrs Zullo is teaching all the HASS in 2019 and again, units adjusted to the achievement standards of the student's year level.

SCIENCE

Mrs Jensen is delivering the Science curriculum in 2019. In Term 1, all students are studying Biological Science topics.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Year 4-6 students will have their technology units delivered by teachers from the IMPACT Centre, online. Mrs Hawthorne is delivering the technology curriculum to students in grades Prep – 3.

HOMEWORK

Each night, students are requested to **read** and learn their spelling words for the week. I also encourage students to practice their number facts to ensure they achieve automaticity in recall. This is an area all students struggle with, so daily support from parents to ensure their children practice, is appreciated.

Weather

As usual, we have had a dramatic start to the school year with the monsoon dumping excessive amounts of rain. Thank you to all parents for acting swiftly on Tuesday in collecting your children after we received the call about bridge closures. Weather is unpredictable so it is better to err on the side of caution rather than to find ourselves all stranded at school.

Please call the school to check on school closures because information contained on the SCHOOL CLOSURE website is not always accurate. Our school was not closed on Tuesday. We were open but as required by Regional Office, I called to advise our students had left due to a flood emergency. Regional Office took the step of putting us on the website and that led to false reports in the media about us remaining closed on Wednesday. I had sent in advice that we were NOT closed and that we would be opened for business as usual, on Wednesday morning. I trust the rest of term will run smoothly.