Dear parents and caregivers,

We have now entered Week 3 of Term 1. Where has time gone? I am pleased to say that all children have settled well into Room 18. I am very lucky to be teaching such a lovely group of children. Over the last two weeks we have been getting to know each other and developing and learning new rules and routines. I have also been doing some diagnostic assessments so that I know where each student is at with their literacy and numeracy skills.

Thank you to everyone who has visited the classroom and chatted with me about their child. I look forward to further discussions.

Kate McDonald ☺

# Important information

• • •

Readers

It is expected that readers will be available to take home at the end of Week 3. The library is busy processing the readers so we can keep track of where they are. Unfortunately, many readers were not returned last year.

Library Borrowing

Our class has been allocated a weekly time on Tuesdays to return and borrow books. They can borrow 2 books at a time if they don’t have any overdue books.

Acquaintance Night – 15 Feb 2017

# Curriculum focus areas for Term 1

**English:** We are focusing on Report writing this term and revising Recount writing.

Each week students will participate in Guided Reading rotations where they will either read with me or complete spelling/grammar activities. Spelling tests will take place on Friday mornings.

**Mathematics:** We will explore place value to 1000, and practise addition and subtraction using a range of strategies. We will also explore the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

**Inquiry:** This term we will explore the big idea that there are many places located around the world. Students will learn about how the world is geographically divided and what life is like in different places. Learning will be student led.

Students will also participate in learning associated with Child Protection, Visual Arts and Technologies. They visit specialist teachers for Health, PE, Music and Drama, Science and Italian.

# Absenteeism and lateness

The school day begins at 8:50. Children should be unpacked and ready to begin learning by this time. If your child is absent we require a reason (in writing or via phone) to explain this. This is a legal requirement by DECD. If your child is late, please sign them in at the office and obtain a slip. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

# Behavioural Expectations

I have high expectations of students regarding their behaviour. As a class, we have decided upon classroom rules that we will all follow. These include:

* Raise your hand to speak
* Keep the classroom tidy
* Try your best
* Be safe
* Follow the teacher’s instructions
* Help each other
* Listen to the person speaking

If students do not follow these rules they will progress through the following steps:

* Rule reminder
* Classroom sit out
* Reflection class
* Office

I am pleased to say that the children have been very good at following the rules, which has created a positive environment for learning.

# Important information continued

• • •

Specialist Lessons

Monday – Science, Music and Drama

Wednesday – PE

Thursday – Italian

Friday - Health

Group Challenges

On Friday afternoons, students participate in group challenges to develop their social skills and creativity. This often involves building something out of everyday materials. Donations of small boxes/containers, ribbon/string etc. are welcome.

Acquaintance Night – 15 Feb 2017