



## **GENERAL INFORMATION JUNIOR SYNDICATE 2011**

### **HOME READING YEAR 1**

Most nights the Reading Folder/Book Bags will come home with some form of reading to share with you. Sometimes it will be their instructional text. Sometimes it will be chosen from their browsing basket and will be at an easy level. Please ensure the book is returned the following day. Very good readers are encouraged to read their library book or a favourite book from home. Sometimes basic sight words will be sent home for your child to commit to memory. Practise saying these words to develop your child's visual discrimination.

Please set aside a regular time to share this reading. Listen to your child read and praise, praise, praise. Our aim is to create a LOVE of books and lead them towards being independent readers. Children will bring home a reading book each night. This reading mileage is a vital part of early reading skill development. The Reading Folder needs to be sent to school daily.

### **HOME READING YEAR 2**

Most nights children will bring home a reader. Sometimes it will be their instructional text. Sometimes it will be chosen from their browsing basket and will be at an easy level. Please ensure the book is returned the following day. Very good readers are encouraged to read their library books or a book from home.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

If your child has misplaced an item of clothing, please check in the classroom first, then beside Room 13, "Lost Property" is on the window. Please ensure where possible, clothing is clearly named.

### **SWIMMING**

Children swim on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at the school pool. Please ensure they have their togs and towels in a named plastic bag.

### **SUNHATS**

Sunhat wearing is compulsory at College Street Normal School for Terms 1 & 4. Each child has been issued with a sunhat by the P.T.A.

## **NEWSLETTERS**

'Wednesday News' is the school's newsletter. The eldest child in each family is given one each Wednesday. Please note upcoming events. This is also accessible on Ultranet.

## **PARENT HELPERS**

Parents are always needed to put away readers, file work & paste work into books etc.  
- Please see your child's classroom teacher.

## **PERSONAL BELONGINGS**

There is a sharing circle on a Friday. Children may bring an item from home to share during this time e.g. a toy, a book, a nature item, a photo. Please do not send precious items.

## **PORTFOLIOS**

Our school uses a portfolio (clear file) as a reporting document. Samples of your child's work are gathered at the beginning of each term. They are sent home for you to view progress and comment on during the year. They are used at parent interview times to discuss your child's progress, achievement and learning goals.

**It is requested that the order of the pages in the portfolios remain the same.**

## **LIBRARY**

We have a wonderful library which children visit each week during their set library time. The children are allowed to choose their own book to keep at home for one week. The library is also open at lunchtimes and a teacher and classroom monitors are on duty. There is a lovely selection of games, which are available to play at lunchtimes during the winter term.

**Your child requires a named plastic bag to put their library book in.**

## **ASSEMBLIES**

You and your families are welcome to attend Junior School Assemblies. We share birthdays, items and songs.

**Please refer to the Wednesday News for upcoming dates and times.**

## **SWEETS**

Please do not send sweets to school in your child's lunch box. Our school policy is NO sweets. Lollies and bubble gum should be kept for home. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## **MONEY**

Please send money, when required, to school in a sealed, named envelope.

**RESOURCES** We always welcome ice cream containers, wool, yoghurt pottles, magazines, newspaper etc for use in the classroom.

## **THE SCHOOL DAY**

The school day is as follows:

8.50am	School commences
10.30am	Morning recess
10.50am	School recommences
12.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm	School recommences
3.00pm	School finishes

## **JUNIOR SYNDICATE STAFF**

Janice Stocker	Assistant Principal - Leader of Junior Syndicate
Dianne Elgar	Team Leader - Teacher Rm 16 - Year 2
Sue Henderson	New Entrant Teacher - Art Teacher
Viv Wimms	Teacher Rm 14 - New Entrant
Amanda Bradley	Teacher Rm 18 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> New Entrant/Year 1
Jan Monk	Teacher Rm 19 - 1 <sup>st</sup> New Entrant/Year 1
Susan Hills	Teacher Rm 20 - Year 1
Teresa Worthington	Teacher Rm 22 - Year 1
Katie Gordon	Teacher Rm 23 - Year 1/2
Katherine Schmanski	Teacher Rm 15 - Year 2
Sarah Blewitt	Teacher Rm 17 - Year 2

# The Junior Syndicate Reading programmes are based on the following beliefs:

- Reading programmes should be child centred
- Reading for meaning is paramount
- Reading must always be rewarding
- Children learn to read by reading
- Children learn best reading books that have meaning and are rewarding
- The best approach to teaching reading is a combination of approaches
- The foundations of literacy are laid in the early years

# HOW PARENTS CAN HELP AT HOME WITH READING



- **Talk with your child** about their reading. Try and discover what they like to read.
- **Hear them reading often** - school texts and home texts. Remember to encourage them to:
  - predict** - what might happen next
  - use the illustrations to help**
  - think of the key "working out" questions when they come to a word or phrase they don't know.**
    - What clues can I get from the picture?
    - What clues can I get from the sounds I can see and recognise?
    - Does the word I am thinking of make sense in the sentence?
    - Does the word I am thinking of sound right in the sentence?
    - What punctuation clues can help me?

**Re read the difficult section and self correct if possible.**

If they still don't know, give them the word.

**DON'T SWAMP THEM WITH ANXIETY**

- **Ask them questions as they read to you.** What does that mean? What's happening here? What do you think is happening? What's going to happen next? Read me the part that tells me.....
- **Praise them to the hilt.** Children need to enjoy reading and solve problems as they read.
- **Read to your children.** Ask them questions as you read [without spoiling the occasion.]
- **Show children you enjoy reading.** Let children see you reading.
- **Take them to the library / book shops / buy books as presents.**
- **Provide authentic reading challenges, e.g.** "Find me the sign in the supermarket that tells me....." "Help me work this out by reading the manual and telling me....."

**Reading at school is where students need to be challenged.**

**Reading at home is where students need to achieve success.**

# HOW PARENTS CAN HELP AT HOME WITH WRITING

- Praise your child when they attempt to write
- Help your child to learn the names of the letters of the alphabet and the sounds they make
- Encourage your child to tell you about their writing
- Share their work with others
- Label objects around the house

## Home writing opportunities:

- ❖ Letters to family, friends
  - ❖ Practice writing their name
  - ❖ Practice correct letter formation of small and upper case letters
  - ❖ Notes to family members
  - ❖ Special cards
  - ❖ Shopping lists
  - ❖ Signs for their bedroom
  - ❖ Alphabet books
- Provide felts, crayons, chalk, computer etc to write with
  - Let them see you writing



# HOW PARENTS CAN HELP WITH MATHEMATICS

## YEAR ONE AND TWO

- Number - order numbers to 10, then to 20, then to 100. 1 more, 1 less, 10 more, 10 less. Count in 2s, 5s, 10s, 20s, 50s, 100s, backwards and forwards, doubles to 20 e.g.  $1 + 1 = 2$ , halves to 20 e.g. half of 10 = 5, addition and subtraction facts to 10 then to 20, reading and writing 2 digit numbers with the correct number formation.
- Do sums, using objects or in their head - e.g.  $2+3$ ,  $4+1$ ,  $5+4$ ,  $6+2$
- Play games that foster mathematical thinking - cards, board games, snap
- Use the calendar - how many sleeps until your birthday? What day is the 2<sup>nd</sup>?
- Clap patterns, play instruments - clap 1, stamp 2, clap 3, stamp 4 etc
- Recognise numerals around them e.g. letterboxes, price tags, road signs, clocks, microwave etc.
- Encourage mathematical thinking in real life situations e.g. equal sharing - share a cake
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Talk about your experiences together. A large part of early math is language-based e.g. tall, shortest, biggest, oldest, lightest
- Use correct measuring language when speaking about measuring e.g. length (cm, m, km), volume (litre, mls), mass (g, kg) encourage your child to bake with you.
- Money - ordering notes and coins according to value, combining coins e.g.  $20c + 10c = 30c$
- Sort objects by size or colour
- Time - o'clock, half past, days, week, today, tomorrow, yesterday, month, year, season