



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152

YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER TERM 1

February, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome back! We hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful break. We would like to extend a special welcome to those students and families who are new to Iramoo in 2019. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

The Year 1 teachers for 2019 are:

- Ms Deanne Elliott (1DE)
- Ms Jessica Hutchison (1JH)
- Ms Anika O'Callaghan (1AO)
- Ms Ashley Patterson (1AP) – Team Leader
- Ms Sharni Tromp (1ST)

In addition to the classroom teachers, **Ms Alisha Jessop** is the Prep, 1 & 2 Learning Improvement Co-ordinator and **Mrs Kari Olcorn** (Education Support Staff) will also be working in the Year 1 area.

At the start of every term, your child will bring home a Year 1 newsletter similar to this one. Please read these newsletters carefully as they contain valuable information.

CURRICULUM

Literacy

Our children participate in a two-hour literacy program every day. This program starts at 8.50 each morning. During the two-hour session, children participate in comprehensive reading and writing activities, which are targeted to their individual needs. It is very important that your child arrives at school by 8:45 a.m. so that they make the most of their learning opportunities. This term the children will be revising good habits for reading and they will be practising to read independently for longer periods of time. They will also be learning a variety of strategies to help them read unfamiliar words. In Writing, the children will be recounting personal experiences and practising how to express one idea in detail. We will be revising the alphabet letters and sounds as well as reading and writing three letter words such as ***cat, dog, mum, red, pig***. Your child is encouraged to continue practising to read and write high frequency words at home. The students will continue their spelling and handwriting development as part of our literacy program each week.

Numeracy

During this term, we will be concentrating on revising and understanding numbers from 0 to 50. Students will be learning about counting forwards and backwards, as well as recalling the numbers before and after 1 through to 50. The children will practise solving simple addition problems and will be revising place value. They will also be exploring the length of different objects and using materials such as counters and blocks to assist them with their measurement and learning.

Integrated Studies

Past and Present

During this unit of work children will investigate what life was like in the past for their parents and grandparents. They will investigate how daily life has changed over time. Their learning will focus on the changes in schools, games, toys, clothes, transport and technology. The children will also listen to guest speakers discuss what life was like for them in the past. Children are encouraged to bring along any photographs or any other items they find relating to the unit of work.

TAKE HOME READING

Our children are encouraged to take home books that are '*Just Right*' to help develop their confidence and fluency. The reading diary is used to record your child's reading. You or your child's teacher may also use the reading diary as a means of communication.

A blue take home book bag is used for taking books and the reading diary to and from school each day. If your child does not have a *take home book bag*, one can be purchased at the uniform shop or the school office for \$10.

You can help your child with their home reading by:

- Reading in a quiet area (television off).
- Discussing the book first. Look at the pictures and talk about what might happen in the story.
- Encouraging attempts at challenging words and concentrating on the positives.
- Signing the diary each night after your child has read their book.
- Ensuring that your child takes responsibility for returning their take home book every day.

Library

Year 1 children have library every second **Thursday**, on the even weeks of the term. They must return their books each fortnight before their library day. We encourage you to ask your child to read the books they have borrowed and ensure that they have a library bag for their fortnightly borrowing. It is part of the school curriculum that **every child** borrows one book from the library each fortnight and this will be monitored closely.

Show & Tell

In order for 'Show & Tell' to be an interesting and relevant learning experience there will be a range of different topics. We would like your child to bring to school a maximum of two items on their Show & Tell day. You can help your child to be prepared by talking with them about what they intend to say during their presentation and helping them to find the relevant item they are going to show.

Week beginning Topic

Feb 18	Bring a picture or tell a story about when you were younger.
Feb 25	Bring an object or a drawing that is associated with the past.
March 4	Free Choice.
March 11	What you would like to be when you are older.
March 18	Bring your favourite piece of clothing and tell the class about it.
March 25	Free Choice.

Year 1 Specialist Timetable

	Computer/ICT	Visual Arts	Physical Education	Performing Arts	Library (even weeks)
1DE	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Monday	Thursday
1JH	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Monday	Thursday
1AO	Monday	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1AP	Monday	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1ST	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Monday	Thursday



REMINDERS

All children are required to have an art smock and library bag at school. Library bags need to be cotton or fabric and large enough to hold a regular sized picture story book. Children can use an old shirt or t-shirt for their art smock. Thank you to those parents who have already sent tissues and soap to school. It is greatly appreciated. If you haven't, please do so as soon as possible as we make very good use of them during the year.

PARENT HELPERS

The Year 1 teachers would greatly appreciate assistance in the classroom during the Literacy program in Term 2. This would involve assisting children with reading. If you are able to assist, please complete the attached form with details regarding when you are available and return it to your child's teacher. You will be notified when the parent helpers program will commence in your child's grade.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to an enjoyable and successful first term.

**MS DEANNE ELLIOTT, MS JESSICA HUTCHISON, MS ANIKA O'CALLAGHAN,
MS ASHLEY PATTERSON (TEAM LEADER) & MS SHARNI TROMP
YEAR 1 TEACHERS**

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Year 1 students will be learning about this term in our specialist areas.

Visual Arts

In Visual Arts this term, the Year 1 students will be exploring the theme of *'Dinosaurs.'* They will create several fun artworks including a colourful Stegosaurus collage and a paper plate Pterodactyl. To address the elements of Art as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum, the Year 1 students will *further develop their painting, design and construction skills.* They will also create a dinosaur using watercolour paint to create the sunset background. There will be a focus on skills such as cutting, pasting and painting for Year 1 this term.

Performing Arts

During Term 1, the Year 1 students will *explore musical ideas using voice, movement, instruments and body percussion* as stipulated in the Victorian Curriculum. They will participate in musical activities that involve them keeping a regular beat and recognising and playing simple rhythm patterns. They will also be working towards recognising and experiencing high and low sounds through singing and playing as well as score reading, writing and playing. The students will use iPads to create a simple piece of music including rhythms and a melody. As stated in the Victorian Curriculum, the students *will be provided with opportunities to present drama that communicates ideas, including stories from their community to an audience.* They will be involved in performing a musical drama of 'Little Red Riding Hood' and have the opportunity to play both lead and supportive roles.

Physical Education (Phys. Ed)

To begin Term 1, Year 1 students will participate in a range of cooperative games that will encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. They will then work towards improving their throwing and catching through focused activities and exciting games. The Victorian Curriculum stipulates that Year 1 students *will use a combination of motor skills and movement patterns during individual activities.* With the use of step-by-step demonstration and opportunities to practise skills in isolation and with others, students will also spend time developing their ball kicking accuracy. Throughout the term, the students will be developing their running endurance as they train for the Iramoo Junior Cross Country. Our Junior Cross Country will be held on Monday, April 1 and parents are encouraged to help prepare students by supporting some training at home.

****Spectators are welcome to take photographs at our school events but must of course be respectful of their use on social or other media, not taking or posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent/guardian.**

Digital Technologies

Year 1 students will begin Digital Technologies lessons this year by revising the rules and routines expected in our computer lab and when using laptop computers in the classroom. Our first learning topic will be **'Dinosaurs'**. The students will revisit the skills they developed in Prep when using the Kid Pix graphics program in order to explore the features of a small group of dinosaurs. They will import digital photographs of themselves into a Kid Pix document, edit the photos and then use a variety of drawing tools to create a dinosaur body to add to their cropped head images. In accordance with the Victorian Curriculum, *the students will experience using an internet site in a safe environment to apply problem-solving skills* by exploring informative strategy games about dinosaurs. The final task for the term will focus on the students voting in a survey about favourite dinosaurs then constructing a labelled graph showing dinosaur stickers that represent the data.



Science

Science is an essential area of learning that allows students to develop an understanding and make sense of the world around them. At Iramoo, this year there is once again a dedicated science teacher who leads the teaching of Science from Year 1 to Year 4. This is taught alongside the students' classroom teacher and focuses on scientific knowledge, human endeavour and enquiry learning in accordance with the Victorian Curriculum.

Year 1 students will begin Term 1 with the topic of **'Dinosaurs and More'**. This topic explores not only the prehistoric time when dinosaurs roamed the earth but the methods used by archaeologists and palaeontologists to gather and collect evidence and information about events that have happened in the past. Through hands-on activities, students will explore the external features of modern animals, and compare them with the skeletons of dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals.

Students will learn about the protective features and diets of different dinosaurs and discuss ideas on how they became extinct.



To be returned to school by Friday, February 22, 2019



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152 YEAR 1 PARENT HELPER

CHILD'S NAME: _____ GRADE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME _____ (PLEASE PRINT)

I am interested in helping with reading in the Year 1 classroom from the **beginning of Term 2**. I can help on:

Please tick your preferred day(s):

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

Your child's classroom teacher will notify you shortly to inform when this will commence.