



THORNLANDS STATE SCHOOL

Growing The Whole Child

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Principal Robyn Wilton

4R CLASS NEWS

Term 1 – Week 1
February 7 – 11, 2022

Welcome to 4R 😊

I trust you've had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break and are feeling refreshed and reenergized for the term ahead...or perhaps you're feeling a little worn out after the extra 2 weeks at home keeping the kids entertained. Either way, while it hasn't been quite the usual start to the year that we've come to expect, let's hope we can commence the delayed start to the year with some normality. ****Fingers crossed****

The start of the year is always a busy period with lots of information to absorb and new routines to establish. I completely understand how difficult it can be to keep up with what is going on in each of your children's classrooms week to week. For that reason, every Monday I like to email out a weekly newsletter such as this one with information about what is happening in the classroom throughout the week as well as reminders of upcoming events. This newsletter really is your first point of call to keep informed with all that is happening in 4R and in the school week to week so I encourage you to take the time each Monday to have a read.

Another great way to keep up to date with what is happening in the school is to sign up to the school newsletter. The school newsletter is dispersed electronically – if you would like to receive the school newsletter you can hop onto the school website and follow the link to register. The 'Thornlands State School' Facebook page is also a great resource for news and notifications as well as the 'Thornlands State School P&C Association (official)' Facebook page.

Email is the most efficient way of contacting me if you have any questions or concerns about your child or anything happening in the life of the school. Once I receive your email, I can then contact you through whatever means is the most appropriate to address your questions or concerns. If your child will be absent from school at any point, please phone the school absence line on 3821 8181 or lodge the absence on the QParents App.

This year, it is my hope that your child feels not just part of a class but part of a family. It's always my aim to foster an environment where the students look out for one another, help one another, encourage and motivate one another and celebrate each other's successes. I do believe that learning should be fun and engaging with plenty of laughs along the way and across the Year 4 team I know this is a shared belief. It is our aim to send the children up to year 5 as resilient, independent, hard-working and motivated individuals, ready to tackle the senior years ahead.

Now, for a few bits of general housekeeping for Week 1...

As you should be aware, a number of restrictions have been put back into place for the next few weeks. Most of you would be familiar with these restrictions from 2020 and 2021 but I do understand that parents not being able to enter the school grounds on the first day of the school year isn't the news that most of you would have been hoping for. I also know that 'Kiss and Go' can prove to be difficult for carers and children alike. I would like to assure you that I will be doing everything in my power to ensure a warm and welcoming first day back for your child and hopefully once they enter the classroom, those first day jitters (if any) will melt away. Admin staff, teacher aides and extra support staff will be placed all around the grounds and in the classrooms to assist the children on day one. As far as book packs, as mentioned in my email, please refer to the list which outlines what items to bring in each day. I've been busy getting the classroom all set up for the year and I will send out some pictures of our classroom during Week 1 so that even though you can't physically step foot in the door just yet, you can still have a 'look around' at where your child will be spending their days.

Our first week of homework won't be until Week 3 of the term so there is no need to worry about that this week. This should allow the student's time to settle in and get reestablished in their school routines before introducing the element of homework. More information regarding the homework expectations will be sent home closer to Week 3 so please keep an eye out for those.

While the Senior Swimming Carnival has been cancelled due to the COVID restrictions, class swimming lessons will still be kicking off in Week 2 for grades 1-6 as planned. With the shortened school term, it will now be a 6-week program. In order to participate, a completed permission/medical form will need to be returned to school and full payment made prior to the first PE lesson (which for us is Tuesday 15th). More information regarding the permission form and payment will be emailed home early this week.

I hope everyone has a fantastic first week back. You can find more information about the Term 1 curriculum, as well as a few other housekeeping bits and pieces to kick the year off on the next page; however, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

- Linda Roma ☺ -
l.roma@eq.edu.au

The 2022 Year 4 Team

4A Mrs Amanda Conway

4GC Mrs Lisa Griffiths (M-W)
Mrs Claire Chester (Th-Fr)

4L Mr Benn Lovell
Mrs Fran Moore (Tues)

4R Mrs Linda Roma

SEP Support – Miss Jess Ferguson
Teacher Aide – Mrs Kim Hartley

WHAT WE WILL BE LEARNING IN TERM 1

English: Students will read Roald Dahl's 'The Twits'. They will examine and analyse the language features and techniques used by the author culminating in the students writing a new chapter or "trick" for the narrative.

Math: Students will begin the year with a large amount of work around place value and general number understanding, chance events and basic fractions. We will also explore equivalence in number sentences before moving onto exploring time and length. Number facts, operations and problem solving will be a core focus of the math curriculum each week.

For the other curriculum areas, students across the year level will participate in rotation sessions. These sessions will take place every Friday for 1hr per subject and will entail the students moving across different year 4 classrooms and teachers for each subject area.

HASS (Humanities and Social Science):

Students will be delving into European exploration and early Australian settlement. Within this unit we will also be learning about Australia's First People's - how they cared for the land, their connections to the land and the impact of the European settlement on their way of life.

(Taught by Mrs Conway)

Science: Students will be learning about rocks and soil and explore natural processes and human activity that cause weathering and erosion.

(Taught by Mr Lovell)

The Arts: Students will be participating in a myriad of Arts based activities; with our focus piece for Term 1 being a visual arts piece of a charcoal First Fleet ship, linking to our HASS unit.

(Taught by Mrs Chester)

Design/Digital Technology: Early in the term, the students will be participating in Digital Technology lessons covering basic word processing, internet and emailing skills. Towards the end of the term and into Term 2, the students will be designing and building an erosion model to consolidate their understanding of our erosion investigations in science.

(Taught by Mrs Roma)

BRAIN BREAK

In P-3, the students partake in 'Brain Break' during the morning session. This has always been a chance to have a quick healthy snack to help those grumbling tummies.

In grade 4, your child still has the option to partake in 'Brain Break' if they wish; however, many students often no longer feel the need to. If your child would like to have 'Brain Break' during class, please remember to keep it to a small fruit or vegetable snack only that shouldn't take longer than 2-3 minutes to consume. It is also helpful if food is sliced into bite-sized pieces to make it quicker and easier to eat while we continue to work.

Students will have ready access to their water bottles at all times during class time. Please make sure that all water bottles are clearly named and only contain water - no juice or cordial please.

Our Specialist Lessons

PE (Mr Lovell):

Tuesday 10:20-11:00am

Mandarin (Miss Lee):

Wednesday 9:40-10:20am

Thursday 11:40-12:20pm

Music (Mrs Connor):

Wednesday 2:20-3:00pm

Rally Reading

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

On Tuesday afternoons, the kids will also head to the Library/Digital Technologies Lab with Mrs Connor where they will rotate fortnightly between library borrowing and an engaging, hands-on digital technology's lesson with an array of our STEM resources. They are going to love this one!

Morning Procedure

The first bell for the day rings at 8:45am. To ensure that your child is accounted for on the roll, it is imperative your child is present in the classroom by 8:50am. If students arrive after the roll has been marked they will need a late slip from the office.

We ask that before school, students go directly to 'A' Block where they will be supervised until the first bell rings. Students are not permitted to place their bags or wait at the classrooms before the first bell. Upon the bell ringing, students will be dismissed from A block where they can then make their way up to the classroom to commence the day and be marked off on the roll. Students are encouraged not to arrive at school before 8:30am as there is no staff supervision before this time.

Book Packs - What to Bring Each Day

DAY 1 – Monday

New Wave Mentals Textbook	8 Exercise Books
Soundwaves Textbook	4 Document Wallets
Maths Plus Textbook	Pencil case (with items listed below)
A3 Sketch Book	

The following items can be placed into your child's pencil case:

- 4 writing pencils, 1 eraser, 1 sharpener, 1 glue stick, scissors, all highlighters, coloured pencils, nylorite textas, ruler, 1 whiteboard marker, 1 black pen, 1 red pen and calculator.

DAY 2 – Tuesday

Writing Time Textbook	4 Exercise Books
5 Display Folders	2 Graph Books
4 Document Wallets	Mesh Headphone Bag with Headphones

DAY 3 – Wednesday

Dictionary	3 Exercise Books
Chairbag	Tissues
Spare Stationary Items (See below)	

** Spare Stationary Items**

I ask that you place all remaining stationary items from the booklist into a named zip lock bag or old pencil case and bring them to school. These spare items will be stored in the classroom and replenished as your child requires them throughout the year.

DAY 4 – Thursday

2 Reams of Paper	Anything else still at home
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