



THORNLANDS STATE SCHOOL

Growing The Whole Child

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Principal Robyn Wilton

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Thornlands! We have had an unusual start to the school year but I hope you had an enjoyable break and are looking forward to 2022. My name is Odette Hattingh and I am your child's teacher for Year 5. I am looking forward to spending 2022 with your child and getting to know them better. I know it will be a great year.

In our classroom, my aim is to provide a positive, welcoming, encouraging teaching and learning environment that will allow students to work at their full potential and be accountable for their actions. We have discussed the Thornlands School Rules – ***As a Learner I will be responsible, respectful and safe*** and what this looks like at Thornlands both in the playground and in the classroom. The students are aware of the positive and negative consequences associated with these rules.

Positive work habits and behaviour are recognised through encouraging comments, awards and peer recognition. However, inappropriate behaviour will earn rule reminders about expected behaviours with the possibility of the use of the 'Cooling Zone' or 'Buddy Class'. The behaviour expectations will be explained more comprehensively in the Classroom Behaviour note.

The children have settled in well and we have hit the ground running. We are already working on a variety of units including the Fantasy genre in English and animal adaptations in Science. This term, they will also be studying the unhealthy effects of smoking and presenting a persuasive piece of writing to express their understanding of key concepts.

Thank you for organising and marking ***all*** your child's resources for Year 5, what a tedious yet necessary task. In order for me to ensure that curriculum needs are met and that your child can start the year organised and settled, could you please ensure that ***all*** resources on the list are sent to school. Please also check that your child has the appropriate TSS buckhat for school. Please also remind your child to bring in their chair bag, as it assists with the organisation of their tidy tray.

Homework commenced this week and will be handed out on Fridays and will be marked each week on Thursdays. Homework will usually entail a variety of tasks ranging from tables, maths, writing sentences and Mathletics. It is an expectation that children read nightly for a minimum of 15 minutes and this is then recorded in the Home Reading Grid on the homework sheet. Please read and sign the homework expectations outlined in the homework as well as signing the weekly homework sheet.

Our specialist lessons this year are as follows: PE on a Monday (swimming- so look out for notes), Music is on a Friday. LOTE (Japanese) lessons will be conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday.

As previously mentioned, you will be receiving a letter outlining the behaviour expectations for our class and the consequences, both negative and positive for certain behaviours. When you receive this letter, please read and discuss it with your child so that you are both familiar with its content and return the tear off section.

I am very excited to walk this journey with you and your child this year. A busy, yet exciting one! Should you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me via email.

Have a great week.
Odette Hattingh
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