## 

## Year 1/2 Newsletter

### **RESPECT, COMMUNITY, CONFIDENCE, AMBITION**

#### Dear Parents,

What a wonderful start we've had to 2025. Term 1 was full of energy, excitement, and meaningful learning experiences. Let's take a moment to celebrate the many highlights and look ahead to what promises to be an even more exciting Term 2.

#### 🐥 Term 1 Highlights

#### Kaboom Sports Community Day

Our school grounds were buzzing with colour, laughter, and teamwork as students took part in the Kaboom Sports Community Day. With music pumping and spirits high, it was a fantastic opportunity to build community spirit, get active, and have fun together!

#### Mind and Body Incursion

We explored the importance of looking after our mental and physical wellbeing during our engaging Mind and Body incursion. Students participated in workshops that taught mindfulness, resilience, and strategies for staying healthy—inside and out!

#### Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all families who joined us for the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences. These conversations gave us a valuable chance to reflect on each student's learning journey, celebrate achievements, and set meaningful goals for the terms ahead.

#### **Colour Fun Run**

What a spectacular explosion of colour! The Colour Fun Run was a vibrant celebration of fun and fitness. It was heartwarming to see so many smiling faces (and colourful shirts!) by the end of the day.

#### Easter Hat Parade

We ended the term with creativity and community spirit on full display during our Easter Hat Parade. Students wowed us with their imaginative hat designs, and it was wonderful to share the joy with families and friends.

**Q** Looking Ahead: Term 2 is shaping up to be full of adventure, learning, and discovery!

#### 🦘 Healesville Sanctuary Visit

Students had a great time getting up close to some of Australia's most unique wildlife as they explored the amazing natural habitats and conservation efforts at Healesville Sanctuary this week.

#### 🏃 Junior Athletics Day

Get ready to cheer on our students as they show off their athletic skills, sportsmanship, and team spirit at Junior Athletics Day!

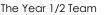
#### 🖢 Excursion to Melbourne Museum – Biological Science: Going, Going, Gone!

We'll be diving into our science topic "Where is the past and the present?" with an exciting trip to the Melbourne Museum. Students will learn about extinction, survival, and biodiversity—starting with a close look at dinosaurs!

#### Information Report Showcase

To cap off our science learning, students will create, and present information reports based on their research. It's always a joy to see how curious minds bring big ideas to life!

We are so proud of the way our students have embraced every opportunity Term 1 had to offer. We can't wait to see what Term 2 brings!





TERM 2, Week 3 2025

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Week 3 Healesville Sanctuary Excursion Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May

#### Week 4

*Open Morning Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May* School Assembly 1/2K Spotlight Presentation Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May

Week 5 Junior Athletics Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Week 7 School Assembly 1/2S Spotlight Presentation Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Week 8 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June Kings Birthday Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June Curriculum Day

Week 9 School Photos Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June School Assembly 1/2U Spotlight Presentation Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June

> Week 10 Melbourne Museum Excursion Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Week 11 School Assembly Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2:30 Finish

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ENGLISH: This term in Literacy, our focus will be on strengthening both reading and writing skills through a variety of engaging activities and learning experiences.

In **Reading**, students will continue developing strategies to help them work out unfamiliar words and improve fluency. We will be exploring the **structures and features of both fiction and non-fiction texts**, helping students understand the differences in purpose, layout, and language. Comprehension and **questioning techniques** will be a key focus, encouraging students to think deeply about what they read and make meaningful connections. In **Writing**, students will be creating **information reports**, using fact-gathering tools and clear structures to communicate what they've learned about a topic. They will also be working on **narrative writing**, where they can unleash their creativity and use their imaginations to develop characters, settings, and storylines. Throughout the term, **spelling and grammar** will be woven into all areas of our literacy program, helping students apply their knowledge in authentic reading and writing tasks.

MATHS: In Term 2, our Year 1 and 2 students will continue to strengthen their number skills through fun and practical activities focused on

addition and subtraction. We'll be exploring different strategies to solve number problems with confidence and understanding. The students will be learning about time—including o'clock, half past, and digital time—as well as exploring the days of the week, months of the year, and understanding duration in everyday contexts. Students will also investigate shape and location, learning to describe and compare 2D and 3D shapes, as well as give and follow directions. Later in the term, in our measurement unit, the students will explore mass, using balance scales and everyday items to compare how heavy objects are.

INTEGRATED STUDIES/ P.B.L: This term in Science, students are exploring the fascinating world of **Biological Sciences**. We are learning to **identify and describe the external features and basic needs of living things**, including animals and plants. Through hands-on investigations, videos, and real-life observations, students are developing a deeper understanding of what living things need to survive and grow. We will also be exploring how different environments meet the needs of living things, and how various habitats provide food, water, shelter, and space for survival. Whether it's the bush, the backyard, or the ocean, students are discovering just how connected living things are to the places they call home. This unit ties in beautifully with our upcoming **excursion to the Melbourne Museum** and our recent visit to **Healesville Sanctuary**, where students had the chance to see these concepts come to life!

WELLBEING: This term, we're continuing to nurture a classroom environment where every student feels valued and heard. Through daily routines and class discussions, we are helping students build a strong sense of **belonging** and **respect for others**. We are also focusing on developing social connections, encouraging kindness, teamwork, and positive communication. Students are learning to recognise and express their feelings, manage challenges, and build **resilience** when things get tough. As confidence grows, so does a willingness to take risks in learning. We celebrate effort, encourage problem-solving, and remind students that mistakes are a part of the learning journey.

Together, we are creating a space where wellbeing and learning go hand in hand!

### SPECIALISTS:

Science: This term, students will embark on a journey to uncover what is beneath our feet. They will investigate the Earth's surface and discover how fossils are created when living things are buried and preserved over time. Through the unit Beneath Our Feet, students will examine different types of fossils and learn how these ancient remains provide valuable clues about what the Earth looked like in the past and the plants and animals that once lived there. **Ms Zala** 

Library: During library sessions, Year 1 / 2 students will explore various social and emotional learning (SEL) topics such as empathy and kindness, being brave and conquering our fears, growth mindset, persistence and self-belief, respect, inclusion and accepting others in the books we read. This is a friendly reminder that library books are on loan for 2 weeks. **Ms Minnis** 

**Physical Education:** In PE this term, Year 1/2 students will be preparing for our Junior School Athletics Day by focusing on developing their fundamental motor skills. Later in the term, they will also work on building their skills in soccer, Aussie Rules and basketball while developing their teamwork and sportsmanship. **Mr O** 

**Art:** In Art this term the Year 1/2s will focus on the art element of Colour. They will learn about the colour wheel and mixing colours. Later in the term the Year 1/2s will study the works of Australian artist Grotti Lotti, and create an artwork inspired by her.

#### HELPFUL HINTS:

To maximise your child's learning, we ask you to consider the following.

Incorporate mathematical thinking in everyday tasks.

Introduce new words during reading to help expand vocabulary.

Establish a consistent reading routine. Set aside time for daily reading.

Play maths games that involve addition and subtraction of small numbers, encourage mental computation strategies.

Practise skip counting together. Use a number chart.

Play card games that encourage turn taking.

Miss Kepitis