**Start to the day**

In Grade One we will be placing emphasis on developing independence. Therefore, in the mornings we would like the children to be responsible for changing their own home books and organising their own brain food and water bottle ready for the day.

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**Brain Food**

The children are encouraged to bring 'brain food' for a mid morning snack. Brain foods are fruits and vegetables only - no pre-packaged food or food containing fruit/vegetables such as muesli bars. We also ask that no nuts or food containing nuts are brought as brain food, as some children have allergies and the mere presence of nuts is enough to trigger a reaction. It would be a good idea to cut up the fruit or vegetables and put them in a named container to make it easier for your child to eat. This also reduces wastage and minimises mess.

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**Meet the Staff**

**Grade 1A** - Miss Raquel Potter  
**Grade 1B** - Mrs Liisa Beaton & Mrs Danah Clark

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**You Can Do It! Program**

Last year we introduced the 'You Can Do It' program throughout the school. There are five foundations in this program; Getting Along, Persistence, Confidence, Organisation and Resilience. This term the whole school is focusing on Organisation. You may hear your child referring to the character ‘Olivia Organisation. She is used to encourage children become more independent and to develop organisational skills, which in turn will assist with their learning.
Literacy

**Magic Words**

Your child will bring home a list of 'magic words' to practise reading or spelling. These words are high frequency words and make up a large majority of the words they need when reading and writing.

These words are often referred to as 'sight words' or 'sight vocabulary'. Being able to read many words automatically by sight contributes massively to fluent reading and is the one of the most efficient ways to unlock the meaning of any text.

**Reading Focus**

Our focus this term will be on sequencing and retelling. To support your child at home you can ask them to retell what they have read in their own words, including the main ideas. Ask them to put the events of the story in sequential order; what happened first, second, third...? We will also be discussing visualising while you are reading. Good readers picture what is happening while they read. What do I see? What do the characters, setting look like?

**Writing Focus**:

This term we will focus on recounts and narratives. Children will be explore the components of a sentence e.g. capital letter, full stop. In handwriting we will look at the formation of anti-clockwise letters such as a, c, d, g and o concentrating on beginning points.

Numeracy

**Number and Algebra**

In Number we will explore 2-digit numbers. We will extend children's knowledge of place value and the basic concept of when we have ten units it makes one group of ten and this pattern continues.

We will also investigate patterns on number charts.

We will explore number pairs that make ten and twenty, whilst also developing the recall of basic addition and subtraction number facts to twenty.

**Statistics and Probability**

We will explore the likelihood of events occurring.

We will also collect data and make simple bar and pictographs.

**Measurement and Geometry**

We will look at 2D shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangle, and hexagon) and explore their properties. We will also introduce 3D shapes such as cubes and cylinders.

Key Dates for Grade One

- Athletic Sports Day Tuesday, 4th March 2013