Welcome to Gr 2, 2012

It has been a busy start to the year but we would like to take this time to say welcome back to Gray St and to extend our best wishes to our new families to the school. We have four new students in Gr 2, Lily McLeod, Harry Henry, Eden Blanchett and Abby Jacobs. They are quickly settling into Gray St and have already made friends, which is fantastic to see.

Timetable for specialist subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Art and PE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Class sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>ICT</td>
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School Sports

Term 1 is a busy time for sporting events with both Swimming and athletic sports being held in the next few weeks.

Athletic sports will be held on the 7th of March.

Swimming sports take place on the 14th of March.

Meet the Grade 2 teachers

Grade 2A, Mrs Sylvia Murry

Grade 2B, Miss Louise Howman
**Brain Food**

Children are encouraged to bring a fruit snack. This assists with the energy they need for concentration. As this is meant to be a quick snack, some fruit or vegetables may need to be precut for the child. We usually have brain food at 10.00am and many children are quite ready for something by this time. Please label any small containers so that they can be returned easily at the end of the day.

Personal water bottles for the classroom is strongly encouraged.

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**Morning Routine**

The children are expected to remain outside of the main building until the first bell at 9.50am (teacher supervision in the school yard begins at 8.35am). When the first bell goes, this is when students bring their bags inside, change their readers and put their ‘Brain food’ in the tub, ready to start the day.

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**Parent volunteers**

All volunteers will need a ‘Working with children check’. This is a free check for volunteers. The forms are available at the post office.

*Classroom helpers can assist with the following-*

- Daily Reading groups
- Listening to students read their readers
- Writing sessions and to help students compile a class newsletter with photos and class news.

**Port Fairy Sleepover**

This has been booked for November. We will be looking for volunteers (including Dads) as we need an adult with each small group overnight.
Homework

Children are expected to read daily, this is recorded in their ‘Home reading’ booklet.

Some children will still be working on their ‘Magic words’, (recognition/spelling) these will need to be revised at home.

Working on automatic response to simple number facts will also support the children’s progress within class.

Homework is not expected to become arduous tasks that impede on family life and takes away play opportunities. However, a small routine time can help reinforce learning.

Also, integrating Maths into everyday life helps children understand the roll it plays.

Reading

The children are being assisted to develop knowledge about how to make appropriate books for themselves to read.

We are learning about “good fit books” and developing responsibilities for their own learning. At times their choices aren’t the best and discussion on how to improve choice to meet enjoyment and challenge would be useful.

Ready to Learn

Sleep and rest allows the brain to absorb the days learning. A good night’s rest is essential for young minds.

Tired kids find it difficult to listen to instructions and to complete learning tasks.

Tired kids don’t always see their own behaviour is causing the disagreements with their classmates. Valuable learning time is lost explaining this to someone already unhappy.

Please ensure regular bedtimes during the school week.

We love to see our students’ parents. Please don’t hesitate to contact us by phone or drop into see us at school!