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WELCOME TO YEAR 2!

We look forward to a successful school year and aim to make your child's learning experiences enjoyable, interesting and challenging.

Our hope is the following information will assist you in meeting your child's needs.

BEFORE SCHOOL ROUTINE

The classrooms are open at 8.30am. During this time the children are expected to organise themselves for the day ahead.

Once the second bell rings at 8.35am, all children are required to be seated in the classroom ready for the class roll to be taken.



PARENT HELP

We welcome all parent helpers but remind you that during your visiting time any information pertaining to a child is confidential and should stay in the classroom. Please address any concerns you may have with the classroom teacher. A PMP roster will be sent home each term as well as be displayed on the class notice boards calling for parent volunteers. If each parent assists once a semester, the roster will be full! These programs cannot run without your support. When visiting for parent help, please ensure you sign in as a visitor at the Front Office.

NEWS

To encourage confident speaking and active listening, the children are involved in News telling. To make News time more meaningful and interesting, a focus topic will be allocated for each fortnight. News presentations will be part of a booklet and delivered on the day allocated by the classroom teacher. Some weeks the children will present to the whole class, other weeks they will engage in a small group or with a partner. Once a term their oral presentation will be assessed. A rubric outlining the assessment guidelines will be attached to their News Book along with the topic that will be assessed.

COMMUNICATION

All College communication will be sent out through SEQTA. Please make sure that your details are up-to-date and that you downloaded the SEQTA Engage application to a smart device. If you need to contact the teachers please use our emails:

- sally.watkins@ufcc.wa.edu.au
- julia.horgan@ufcc.wa.edu.au
- kerry.cook@ufcc.wa.edu.au

UNIFORM

It is a requirement of the school that all students be in full, correct school uniform at all times. However, if for some reason your child is unable to wear part of their uniform, a written explanation needs to be given. Please ensure that **all pieces of clothing are clearly labelled** with your child's name. We cannot be responsible for finding lost items.

The children are required to wear their hats for all outdoor activities throughout the year. We have a 'no hat, no play' policy. If your child should forget their hat, they will be asked to sit in a shaded area.

LEARNING AREA INFORMATION

Religious Education

Two Religious Education units will be covered each term. Throughout our program, life and faith are integrated. Prayer is an integral part of each day. Prayer will also be an inclusive part of the Religious Education lessons. The key learning in Term One's units is summarised below.

Unit: 2.1 Church

- People belong to a family
- Jesus belonged to a family
- The Catholic Church is like a family
- The Church building is a special Holy place
- God's family prays together

Unit: 2.2 Lent Roster

- People celebrate important dates and events
- Lent is a time to prepare for Easter
- Christians remember the events of Holy Week
- Christians celebrate Jesus is risen at Easter
- Christians share the 'good news' that Jesus is risen, with others

Mathematics

Mathematics in Year 2 will be activity based through the use of concrete materials. Emphasis will be placed on the children developing an understanding of the relevance of Mathematics in real life through practical, meaningful experiences. All mathematical strands will be covered. These are: Number and Algebra; Measurement and Geometry; and Statistics and Probability.

At home you may assist your child's mathematical skill development by:

- measuring and weighing ingredients for shopping/cooking
- telling the time at home and developing a concept of time; eg. "In 5 minutes we will..."
- counting objects and sorting them into groups
- encouraging problem solving at home
- encouraging talk using ordinal numbers; eg. "You can be second in the shower"
- asking them to calculate money required for items at the shops and if any change is due

English

The children will be involved in English based lessons each day. Our English program will cover all aspects of language that the children will need to be effective communicators. These being: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, Spelling and Viewing.

At home you may assist your child's language development by making the most of everyday tasks such as:

- writing lists, eg. shopping list
- recalling events from the day and discussing these
- reading the newspaper with them
- looking at different signs whilst driving
- asking questions about books they have read, things they have seen
- listening to podcasts together



Handwriting/Printing

The handwriting style used at school is the South Australian Font. The children will take part in formal lessons to practise the formation of letters. This print will be used for all pieces of work.

Visual Arts

Art activities can get messy so please provide an art shirt that will cover most of your child's uniform. A long sleeved **plastic** art smock that is clearly labelled with your child's name is preferred. We take no responsibility for the protection of uniforms of children who do not have an art smock.

Our Visual Arts specialist, Mrs Pithouse, will take the children for 1 x 60 minute Visual Arts lesson per week, every **Wednesday**.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS): Geography and History

Each term we will be covering aspects of Humanities and Social Sciences linking these to our theme for the term where possible.

Our HASS specialist, Mrs Armstrong, will take the children on a **Wednesday** for the History component of the curriculum and the classroom teachers will cover the Geography strand.

In Year Two the focus for Geography is in recognising that people are connected to many places.

Science

We utilise the Inquisitive Program that is in accordance with the Western Australian Curriculum.

Technologies

Ongoing skill development will be enhanced through the use of iPads, when applicable. Other aspects of both Digital and Design Technologies will be integrated throughout the year and linked to class themes where appropriate.

SPECIALIST AREAS

Physical Education

Full **sports uniform** should be worn on **Tuesday** and **Friday** in **Year 2**. 1 x 40 minute Physical Education lesson will be taken by Mr Nguy and a 1 x 30 minute Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) Skills session will be taken by the PMP teacher, Mrs Culloton.

Health Education

Our Health Specialist, Mr Nguy will take the children for 1 x 40 minute Health lesson on **Monday**.

Keeping Safe Curriculum

As part of our Keeping Safe Curriculum, students will be exploring a number of different topics throughout the term. These 30 minute lessons will include exploring feelings, identifying a safe place, identifying warning signs and defining an emergency.

Library

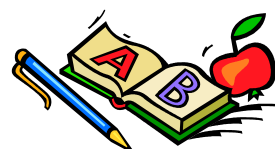
A **library bag** is needed on a **Monday** for **2R** and **Tuesdays** for **2G** and **2W** in order for the children to borrow. They are allowed to take out 2 books each week.

Music

Our Music specialist, Mr Tang, will take the children for 1 x 60 minute Music lesson per week on a **Wednesday**.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

- Term One: Work samples
- Term Two: Parent-Teacher Meetings, Assessment Folders and Formal Reports
- Term Three: Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Term Four: Assessment Folders and Formal Reports



HOMEWORK

It is important to establish a homework routine at an early age. In Year Two, the children are required to complete 15-20 minutes homework each night including reading. All homework must be submitted on Friday.

It is also very important that your child practises their oral reading each night. This is a time for parents to share with their child the joy of reading. When doing home reading, try and find a quiet place where you can spend one-on-one time with your child. Make the reading process fun, enjoyable and relaxing. Remember, it is not about getting your child to read every word perfectly but giving them strategies to decode unknown words and discuss the texts read.

Your child will bring home a reading book each night that is reflective of their assessed reading level. Your child is responsible for changing his/her book on a weekly basis.

OTHER INFORMATION

The classroom is centred around the child so his or her needs are paramount as well as their well-being. To ensure this, a pleasant, friendly and caring atmosphere will be strived for and maintained at all times. Children will be encouraged by discussion and example to be tolerant, helpful and friendly towards others. Definite forms of acceptable behaviour will be understood and practised by everyone.

The tone of the room will be one of quiet, calm business. Cooperation not competition will be keynote. For children having difficulty fulfilling behavioural expectations, sensitivity to the possible reasons behind this will be acknowledged. In the event of continual disruption and negative behaviour, a parent meeting will be requested to discuss a solution and a way forward.

As all children are individuals and different, this will be taken into consideration both in behaviour and academic performance. Class work will be structured so that all children can enjoy success. Children will be encouraged to be independent workers capable of making decisions and completing tasks without continual direction.

PRAYER POLICY

It is important for the children's faith development that each class has a daily prayer ritual/routine.

We consider and plan for:

- silent prayer times
- the memorising of formal prayers
- times for prayer in liturgical celebrations
- times for prayer using Scripture
- times for preparation for communal prayers
- times for prayer using gesture and dance



It is essential for teachers and parents to be seen to pray themselves.

It is also important to provide the various conditions needed for prayer in the classroom. These include:

- Atmosphere – providing opportunities for quiet time with background music
- Reverence – acting reverently, for example; sitting or kneeling quietly, sharing the sign of peace, bowing head, making the sign of the Cross, using holy water, and listening to readings and prayers.
- Focus point – a cross, a Bible, candles and flowers; symbols that have meaning for the children.

BEHAVIOUR TONICS

The *1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching* program is a consistent, whole-school approach to behaviour guidance and self-regulation that implements flexible yet consistent strategies to set limits and manage behaviour that can be disruptive to learning. It allows that our primary focus of providing a positive learning environment, supported by good relationships is maintained.

Emotion coaching builds relationships and emotional intelligence. Staff continually display empathy to help children reflect on and identify with their emotions, which in turn assists social and emotional well-being, connection and self-discipline.

Year Two is an important year in your child's education. As teachers, we aim to build on the work already done by parents who are their child's first and most influential teachers. We hope the information you have received is helpful and offers you practical suggestions about different ways you can support and bring alive the school curriculum at home. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment via email to discuss any concerns you may have during the year. Communication is an important aspect of a successful home-school partnership.

We look forward to a productive and positive year ahead with your child!

*Mrs Kerry Cook (2 Grey), Mrs Julia Horgan (2 Red) and Mrs Sally Watkins (2 White)
Mrs Jacinta Parr (Education Assistant) and Mrs Faith Ee (Education Assistant)*

