

# Early Stage 1 News



## Term 2, 2021

Welcome back to Term 2—and what a lovely start to the term it has been! We have dived straight back in to learning and it is amazing how quickly the students have settled into their classroom routines. On behalf of the Early Stage One team, I want to personally say thank you for all of your support with your child's learning, during Term 1. We couldn't do what we do without you!

Don't hesitate to get into contact if you have any questions.

### Early Stage 1 Teaching Staff

KH	Miss Cherie Hamilton—Assistant Principal
KK	Ms Elizabeth Karanikolas
KN	Mr Shaun Ninyo
KS	Miss Madeleine Stack

### Calendar of Events for Early Stage 1

#### Term 2

20/5/2021	Art Days
24/6/2021	
28/4/21— 23/6/21	Soccer—Every Wednesday
Week 10	Reports to be sent home
25/6/21	Last day of Term 2
13/7/21	First day of Term 3

## CURRICULUM INFORMATION - KEY LEARNING AREAS

All stages will be working towards outcomes in the NSW syllabus for the Australian curriculum. Our focus in Term One is to make Early Stage One students feel comfortable and settled in to their new classrooms, while we begin to introduce them to more structured learning experiences. Topics this term include:

### English

#### Speaking and Listening

Super Speakers—see over page

#### Reading and Viewing/ Writing and Representing

Phonological/ Phonemic Awareness— see over page

Phonics: Get Reading Right—see over page

Writing—see over page

### Mathematics

#### Whole Number

Students count to 30, and order, read and represent numbers in the range from 0 to 20.

#### Addition and Subtraction

Combines, separates and compares collections of objects and describes them using everyday language.

#### 2D Space

Students manipulate, sort and describe representations of 2D objects, including circles, triangles, squares and rectangles.

#### Length

Students describe and compare lengths and distances using everyday language.

#### Area

Students describe and compare areas using everyday language.

### Science and Technology

#### Living World—Living Things and their Needs

This Science unit covers a range of concepts relating to the basic needs of living things. Students will identify the difference between living and non-living things and participate in a range of activities to investigate what living things need for survival. Students will also explore how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people use plants and animals for food, clothing and shelter.

### Geography

#### People Live in Places

Students investigate the how and why the words “country” and “place” are used by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples for the place to which they belong to. They will learn the significance to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the local area. Students observe maps and how to use them to find places. They explore and create maps of familiar/new places.

### Creative Arts

#### Music

Students will participate in the Amplify Music program this term. Amplify will run every Friday and will provide opportunities for students to perform simple songs, games and speech rhymes using their voice, body percussion and percussion instruments.

#### Visual Art

Students will participate in 2 ‘Art Days’ this term, in Week 5 and 10. They will be exposed to a variety of art styles and mediums and gain an appreciation for art in their environment.

### PDHPE

#### PDH—Grow Your Mind

Students will participate in Grow Your Mind discussions which centre around a focus word, weekly. This term we will talk about respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, teamwork, hope, helpfulness, fairness and tact.

#### PDH—Health, Hygiene and Safety

Students will explore safety in a variety of situations such as on the playground, in the sun, near roads and at the pool. They will also explore the importance of practices to improve their overall health and wellbeing.

#### PE—Soccer and Stage Sport

Soccer —Once per week, students will participate in soccer lessons run by a Sydney Football Club coach.

Stage sport—On Fridays, all Kindy students will participate in stage sport, increasing their fundamental movement skills, fitness and teamwork.

## EARLY STAGE 1 PROGRAMS

### Phonemic Awareness

SRA Phonemic Awareness is a complete program for developing phonological and phonemic awareness. The program follows the developmental sequence for teaching all levels of phonological awareness, including phonemic awareness. Phonological awareness is critical for learning to read any alphabetic writing system. Research shows that difficulty with phoneme awareness and other phonological skills is a predictor of poor reading and spelling development. The SRA Phonemic Awareness program will be implemented for 15 minutes, once per day to build students skills and understanding in phonological awareness.

### Get Reading Right—Synthetic Phonics

The process of reading with synthetic phonics involves breaking words into separate phonemes that can be blended together to read a word. Part One of the Get Reading Right Synthetic Phonics Toolkit will be taught within all Kindergarten classrooms, throughout the year. It teaches children:

- the first 31 phonemes of the basic code and how they can be represented;
- to blend phonemes all through a word;
- to segment words into phonemes to spell unknown words;
- to respond to letters and pronounce phonemes quickly and automatically;
- that reading and spelling are reversible processes;
- to read and spell simple words;
- to read and spell irregular, high frequency words and
- to work independently and in groups during guided reading.

The Get Reading Right synthetic phonics program will be implemented for 30 minutes, once per day.

### Writing

In Writing students work with the teacher to explicitly scaffold and write a sentence, using “Camera Words” (sight words) and phoneme words from the Get Reading Right program. As the students become more confident writers, they will explore imaginative and informative texts as well as write recounts of personal experiences. Writing will be taught daily in Kindergarten.

### Super Speakers

From Week 2 onwards, students will be provided with a weekly topic to talk to their class about during Super Speaking time, as part of Speaking and Listening. Students will be allocated a day and given a scaffold to work through at home, to prepare their speech. Now that we are in Term 2, the expectations for Super Speakers will grow and teachers will begin to encourage students to focus more on their presentation manner and the way their speech is structured.

### Developmental Exploration

In Development Exploration, students are provided with a range of hands-on learning experiences, encouraging the development of skills through play. All kindergarten classes work together in the shared learning area, giving students the freedom to choose their activities and peers they would like to work with. Developmental play will run for an hour, every Friday afternoon.

### Crunch and Sip

This is a program which aims to encourage students to eat more fruit and vegetables in their day and to drink more water. Each day, students will have time to eat fruit or vegetables, brought from home. We would appreciate your support in providing your child with food to eat at this time.

### Stage 3 Buddies

All Kindergarten students will be paired with a buddy from Year 5 or 6. Once per week, buddies will be completing maths games, sports activities and reading. We will also be having a buddies picnic at the end of the term!

## HOMEWORK

We understand that our Kindy students need your help to complete their homework! We thought we'd put together this table to remind you what students should be doing each week at home, for homework.

### Weekly Homework

<b>Reading</b>	<p>Students read their home reader each night and record it on their Reading Log. Books are changed every Monday and Wednesday.</p> <p><i>See the Parent Guide to home reading for tips on how to help your child with their reading at home.</i></p>
<b>Super Speakers</b>	<p>Students complete the planning page for the weeks Super Speaker topic and prepare and practise their speech, ready to present to the class on their Super Speaker day.</p>
<b>Phonemes and Camera Words</b>	<p>Students practise their Phonemes and Camera Words using the cards provided to them in the plastic slip, in their class folder.</p>
<b>Homework Booklet</b>	<p>Students complete the weekly homework booklet consisting of activities to consolidate their in-class learning. Homework booklets are sent home every Monday and collected every Friday.</p>
<b>Other ways you can help your child with their learning at home</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practise handwriting and letter formation</li> <li>• Practise writing and identifying numbers</li> <li>• Practise arranging phoneme cards into words</li> <li>• Practise writing Camera Words</li> <li>• Practise writing a sentence using Camera Words and 3 letter words that consist of the phonemes being learnt in class e.g. She was a cop. Focus on capital letters, finger spaces, full stops.</li> </ul>



