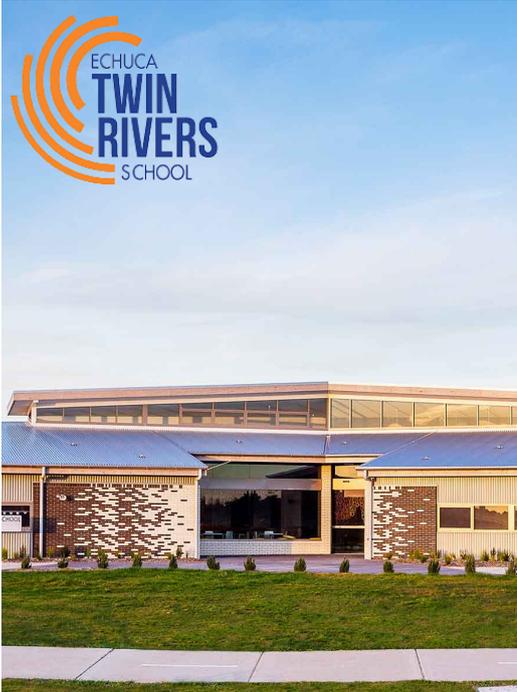


# TWIN RIVERS NEWSLETTER

## GRADE 1/2- TERM 1, 2021

LEARNERS TODAY, LEADERS TOMORROW



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 1. We look forward to welcoming the 1/2 students to a term full of learning at Echuca Twin Rivers School. Our classrooms open at 8:30am and learning starts at 8:45am. Our main form of communication will be via Class Dojo, so please come and see us if you need assistance with connecting to your child's class. Miss Baldwin is on personal leave this term and we are extremely lucky to have Mrs Ann Bell on board with 1/2A. We have a fabulous term planned for the students and we hope you find the information below helpful. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Thank you,

Justin Minchin, Mel Bourke, Ann Bell & Leanne Mahney

### LITERACY

**Reading-** The 1/2 classrooms are working on establishing Reader's Workshop. We will be creating anchor charts about student roles, teacher roles, routines and expectations. We will work with students to set up our expectations of reading behaviours and we will be building our daily reading stamina. Students read independently after our mini lesson each day and then engage in a range of other reading activities during this time. We have set up our book boxes and all students should be book shopping and changing their books weekly. Please ensure students are reading each night and that their home reader diaries are signed off each night by a parent or guardian.

**Writing-** Every morning we will be starting our day with explicit handwriting instruction and practice from 8:45am to 9:00am. We are working on establishing writing communities in our classrooms and encouraging students to take risks and just have a go when writing. This term we will be exploring labels, lists and personal narratives. Students write daily and have the opportunity every Friday to write for pleasure as part of 'Free Write Friday.'

**Spelling-** Students in grade 1/2 learn a variety of spelling words each week using the SMART Spelling approach. We will commence the term by revising our alphabet and simple digraph sounds and then our spelling program will commence after that. Students complete daily spelling activities at school during our literacy block.

**Speaking & Listening**- is embedded into all areas of the curriculum. This term we are working on interaction skills including turn-taking, recognising the contributions of others, speaking clearly and using appropriate volume and pace.

We will explore different ways of expressing emotions, including verbal, visual, body language and facial expressions. We are learning about following instructions and putting our hand up before speaking. Students are able to practice their skills also as part of weekly 'Show & Tell.'

**BOOST Program P-2**- This year, Mrs Mahney will be working with our students to give them a 'boost' in Literacy and will begin with reading in Term 1. If your student is identified to work with Mrs Mahney, we will be in contact with you via phone. We are extremely excited to be able to offer this extra tutoring program in 2021.

## NUMERACY

**Number & Algebra** - Students are learning to count and model numbers. They are learning to recognise ordinal numbers and identify numbers as odd or even. Students will explore number patterns and skip counting by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s to, from and beyond 100. They will be extended to skip count from different starting points, not just zero. Students will learn about place value and how numbers can be partitioned into tens and ones, or hundreds, tens and ones.

**Measurement & Geometry** - Students will explore 'Time' through sequencing events over a day and relating activities to time of day. We will be learning about calendars, days of the week and months of the year. Students will learn about analogue and digital clocks as they work to tell the time (o'clock, half past, quarter past, quarter to.)

**Statistics & Probability** - Students will learn about probability and use the language of chance to describe events. They will describe and identify events as certain, possible, or impossible. Students will engage in a range of activities that allow them to develop skills to ask questions, collect data, graph their information and discuss with their peers what their data is telling them.

## INQUIRY

This term, we will be focusing on the Mappen unit - Growing Older and Wiser. During Growing Older and Wiser, our students will learn about healthy foods and staying safe. They will consider how they deal with conflict by expressing their emotions clearly and about how to take responsible risks. The two habits of mind introduced in this unit are taking responsible risks and thinking about your thinking.

**RESILIENCE INCLUSION  
RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY  
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

## WELLBEING

This term we will continue to reinforce the Zones of Regulation to help our students with regulation and self-control. We will also be working through the Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships modules to help foster emotional and social intelligence.

## SWPBS

Students will engage in regular activities to encourage and reinforce their understanding of our class/ school/ playground expectations and routines. Our Wally sticker reward system will continue to be used in the yard and classroom to students who display our values of Resilience, Inclusion, Respect and Responsibility. In addition, we now have Academic Excellence. These stickers will be awarded in the classroom to students who are striving for their personal best academically.

## HOME READING

All students have received a new take home reading booklet to record their reading. We encourage you to read with your child or listen to your child read every night. Parents of younger students are asked to complete the daily log in the journal, older students are encouraged to complete this independently and have a parent or guardian sign this once completed. Teachers will record nights of reading in the classroom and students will be awarded certificates and books for reaching reading milestones. It would be great if all students could have a school reading bag, this protects the books and keeps all reading material together. These are available at the office for \$10.

## GATES

To assist with student safety, all gates will be closed at 8:50am until 3:15pm. If you need to enter the school between these times please enter through the office and sign in and out. Students will be dismissed from their classrooms at 3:15pm. The school gates will be opened at 8:30am each morning and students will be able to enter the classrooms.

## UNIFORM

Students are expected to wear full school uniform whilst at school. The base colour of our uniform is navy not black. In term 1 students are required to wear school hats at recess times and when outside for class activities such as PE. This year white or black socks are permitted only. Black shoes are being phased in as part of our uniform policy and this will be a gradual process over the course of the year. When replacing shoes, we ask that they be in line with our new uniform policy. We encourage families to name all items of uniform. Twin Rivers drink bottles are also available for purchase at the office.



## VOLUNTEERS

We encourage and welcome parents into our classrooms and school community at every opportunity. We would love for parents to read with their children and other students in the mornings, as this can be a very busy time for teachers. Any parent or carer wishing to support the school through voluntary work including reading will need to have a current Working with Children's Check and undergo a school induction.

## COVID PRECAUTIONS

Due to COVID restrictions parents who wish to stay longer than 15 minutes will be required to sign in and out at the office. Handwashing and sanitising routines will continue this term as well as COVID safe practices. We ask that students remain at home if they are unwell or showing cold and flu symptoms. This is to ensure the health and safety of the school and wider community.

## SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

Our Specialist team comprises of Mrs Devlin, Mrs Horkings, Mrs Portwine and Ms Pensini.

12A - Art (Tuesday), Music / Indo (Tuesday), P.E. (Friday)

12B - Art (Tuesday), Music / Indo (Thursday), P.E. (Tuesday)

12C - Art (Tuesday), Music / Indo (Thursday), P.E. (Thursday)

It's going to be a  
great term!



# SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

## VISUAL ART



This term students in Grade One and Two students are learning a range of minor games. They will learn basic rules and procedures required for a safe and inclusive lesson. Students will also be refining the fundamental motor skills of throwing, catching, bouncing and dodging. In health students will be learning about the importance of rules and safety in a range of settings.

## INDONESIAN & MUSIC

Students will select and make choices about their use of the elements of music as they improvise, compose and perform. They build on their ability to discriminate between different qualities of rhythm, pitch, dynamics and expression, form and structure, timbre and texture as they listen to and make music. They develop the range and expressiveness of their vocal and instrumental technique and continue learning to use their voice and other instruments appropriately and safely.



Indonesian the students will continue to learn basic greetings. They will build on their knowledge of Indonesia and the cultural differences and similarities. We will also investigate other cultures and their celebrations as they arise, e.g., Chinese New Year in week 3. Hopefully, this year we can also work on performance-based activities with the view to putting on 'acts' for assemblies or school gatherings.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION



This term students in Grade One and Two students are learning a range of minor games. They will learn basic rules and procedures required for a safe and inclusive lesson. Students will also be refining the fundamental motor skills of throwing, catching, bouncing and dodging. In health students will be learning about the importance of rules and safety in a range of settings.