

STAGE 1 NEWS

What a wonderful start to 2020 Stage 1 staff and students have had! It's hard to believe we are halfway through the term already! We are looking forward to many exciting events over the next few weeks.

We are incredibly excited for our upcoming visit from author/illustrator Matt Cosgrove, accompanied by real life alpacas. Students have been completing an author study on Matt Cosgrove during RFF lessons and have become familiar with his book titles, characters, and writing style. This will be a very valuable experience for our students, and we are so happy that our Year 2 SRC members can now attend as we were successful in moving the date to Thursday 12th March.



School Photos are coming up on Thursday 19th March. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform every day and particularly on our photo day. Please be aware that jewellery is not to be worn and any hair accessories must match our school uniform colours. Each child received their photo envelope last week.

Please see your child's teacher if your envelope did not arrive home.

Family photo envelopes are to be collected from the office.



Photo Day



Photo Day



Photo Day

A reminder to parents/caregivers... Please do not sit on the silver seats outside S1H, S1T, S1W and S1G while waiting for your child in the afternoons. It can be very distracting for students and teachers as they try and complete their day. Likewise, please do not enter the buildings of S1M, S1C and S1D while waiting for your children to be dismissed. We welcome all parents to wait in our Stage 1 C.O.L.A area. Thank you for your assistance with this.



Congratulations to our newly elected Year 2 SRC members. We hope you enjoy your day at Long Neck Lagoon!

SCRIPTURE

This week we commence Scripture/ Ethics classes on Wednesday. Please note that those students enrolled in non-scripture classes will participate in virtues lessons with Stage 1 teachers.

This week we also commence our whole school 'Peer Support' program on Friday afternoons. As a result, we have changed our Stage 1 combined dancing/fitness day to Tuesdays. Our regular afternoon sport session will continue to occur on Wednesdays. It would be great if children could wear appropriate, comfortable footwear such as black joggers on both Tuesday and Wednesday each week.



In Week 4, we commenced our home reading/homework program. We encourage all families to participate in reading daily and would like to reinforce how important it is for reading folders to be returned the day after they have been sent home. Also, just to clarify, the spelling section of our homework requires words to be selected from your child's 'word sort'.

Students may attempt spelling the words using known spelling strategies or alternatively, students may simply record their spelling rule/focus for each word/picture.

Helping your child to



When helping your child read at home, several strategies may be used to assist in working out unknown words.

1. Tell your child to look at the picture.
2. Tell your child to look for chunks in the word, such as it in sit, **all** in small or **and** and **ing** in standing.
3. Ask your child to get their mouth ready to say the word by shaping their mouth for the beginning letter.
4. Ask your child if the word looks like a word they already know. Does **could** look like **should**?
5. Ask your child to go on and read to the end of the sentence. Often by reading the other words in context, they will be able to figure out the unknown word.
6. If your child says the wrong word while reading, ask questions like:

Does it make sense?

Does it sound right?

Does it look right?



WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads

- ❖ 20 minutes per day.
- ❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.
- ❖ 1,800,000 words per year.



- ❖ Scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests.

Student B Reads

- ❖ 5 minutes per day.
- ❖ 900 minutes per school year.
- ❖ 282,000 words per year.



- ❖ Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests.

Student C Reads

- ❖ 1 minute per day
- ❖ 180 minutes per school year.
- ❖ 8,000 words per year.



- ❖ Scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Nagy and Herman, 1987.)

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

This term we have been busy studying Dinosaurs for our Term 1 Science unit of work. We are very fortunate to be participating in a related incursion on Thursday 2nd April.

Please ensure school packs have been paid for, as this includes our incursions throughout the year. This will be an incredibly exciting and informative show and we'd love all our students to have the opportunity to participate and reinforce their classroom learning.



Parent /Teacher interviews will be held in Week 9 this term. This is the perfect opportunity to touch base with your child's teacher and address any concerns, or ask any questions you may have. Teachers will also provide an insight into your child's social, behavioural and academic progress. Be sure to book in on-line when this becomes available on Monday, 9th March at 9am. Bookings will close on Friday, 20th March at 3pm. More information to follow soon.