

1/2 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, 2018



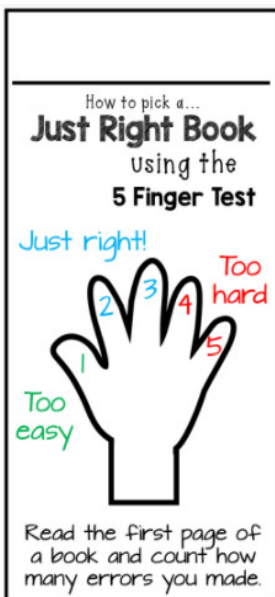
HARVEST HOME
PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been an exciting start to our year in the 1/2 Communities!

We have been very busy reviewing our school behaviours of *Being Respectful*, *Being Safe* and *Being Your Best*. Our students have been earning 'Hero Stamps' for showing these behaviours inside the community and 'Hero Cards' when showing these behaviours outside.

This term we are focusing on:

Reading:



This term, students will be working on various aspects of reading, such as:

- Picking *Just Right* books, using the 5 Finger Test
- Establishing Independent Reading behaviour expectations
- Building up stamina during Independent Reading
- Letter sound recognition
- Blends and diagraphs
- Reading with fluency
- Making connections
- Making predictions and inferences using clues from the text

Yellow Home Reading Journals have been sent home with online program codes for those students who have paid for their book packs for 2018. Take Home Books have been organised and sent home with students who have brought their reading satchels to school. Students may read a take home book, book from Wushka or a book from Reading Eggs. Any of these books read at home can be recorded in students' yellow diaries. This year, each Community will be celebrating home reading milestones on a display showing 25, 50, 75, 100 nights reading and more!

Students have been grouped according to their abilities and point of need and assigned to a teacher within their community. These groups and levels may change throughout the year depending on assessment results and the learning needs of your child.

Writing:

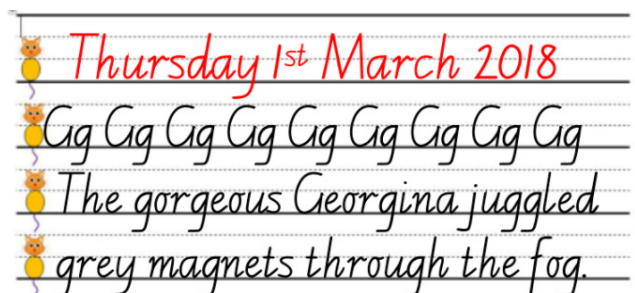
Our writing genre this term is Recount, where students learn to write about personal experiences and events. Each writing group may be working on different stages of the writing process (planning, composing, editing, publishing).

Within their groups, students may be focusing on the following skills:

- Placing letters correctly on the lines and putting spaces between words
- Grammar and punctuation
- Vocabulary and sentence structure
- Sound knowledge and spelling

Handwriting

Students in the 1/2 Communities begin most days with a handwriting fluency task. Each week, the focus is on forming letters correctly, correct size and orientation of letters and ensuring correct starting position and pencil control.



Numeracy

Students have been assessed according to their knowledge in relation to counting and place value.

Within planned activities, students may be focusing on the following skills:

- Counting – forwards and backwards by 1 from various starting points 0-120, before and after numbers and skip counting by 2,3, 5 and 10
- Patterns – investigating and describing number patterns formed by skip counting and with objects
- 2D shapes and 3D objects – describing, drawing, recognising and classifying familiar 2D shapes using obvious features. Describing, recognising and classifying 3D objects, such as cubes, pyramids, cylinders) using obvious features.

Back to Front Maths

This year HHPS has invested in a learning program called Back to Front Maths. This program focuses on correcting misconceptions around counting and number knowledge. Students will be assessed and grouped according to misconceptions presented during an initial assessment. They will participate in three sessions a week aimed at correcting these misconceptions.

Challenge-based Learning (CBL)

Our topic this term is “Learning to Learn”. This looks at skills such as:

- Exploring how we learn best
- Working on the school value of Cooperation, exploring team work
- Setting personal goals related to learning and teamwork and reflecting on these goals



Grade 1/2 Homework Expectations:

It is recommended that students in Grades 1 and 2 participate in a minimum of **20 minutes** of homework per day. Students are to read either their take home book or a book on Wushka/Reading Eggs on a daily basis. Please record the book read each night in their yellow home reader book. **After** reading, parents are encouraged to discuss the meaning of the books and give your child a deeper, richer understanding of what has been read.

Being a 21st century learning school we have school and home access to some exciting online programs to support the curriculum. In your child's yellow home reader book you will find the login details to the following websites:

Reading Eggs- www.readingeggs.com.au

Wushka: www.wushka.com.au

Mathletics- www.mathletics.com.au

Students can also access the program **Spellodrome** www.spellodrome.com.au using their Mathletics password.

Reminders:

If for some reason your child is absent from school, you can explain the absence on Compass or make contact with the school on 8468 9000.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email one of us via Compass, or call the office to arrange a time to pop in for a chat.

Kind Regards,

Ashleigh, Christina, Alex, Stephanie Z (Wurun Community)
Kellie, Marina, Stephanie M, Tanyel (Durrong Community)
Bianca, Amali (Balam Community)