Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to another exciting year of learning! The children have settled in well and are beginning to establish solid routines and new friendships within their classroom. We would like to introduce you to our team: Grade 1A Shannon Slator, 1B Sally Fowler, 1/2 A Rose Krajacic, 2A Khalad Karim and we extend a warm welcome to Pierre Dowartzides of 2B. We would also like to welcome all new students and their families to our school community.

Our themes for the Term are ‘Who we are at Sunshine Heights Primary’ and ‘Staying Safe’. In ‘Who we are at Sunshine Heights Primary’ Students will understand there are things that they can do to be respectful to themselves and others and there are things that they can do to manage their feelings and emotions. In ‘Staying Safe’ Students will learn to take responsibility for their own safety at school and at home by identifying potential risks in their environment and making good choices to protect themselves and minimise risk.

They will acquire the following skills:
- Listening to directions and to others.
- Respecting others.
- Cooperating with others, taking turns, being courteous.
- Resolving conflicts.
- Making good choices.

What we expect the students to learn in Reading:
Students will continue to participate in daily Independent Reading activities where they will be provided with opportunities to discuss and compare a variety of texts. This term the students will identify themselves as readers and develop supportive reading habits including:

- Reading Routines
- Predicting at whole text level and making Text to Text and Text to Self-connections.
- Think aloud, Turn and Talk, Reflections/Sharing and Role Play.
- Monitor and self-correct at the point of error by re-reading and checking language structure (grammar), meaning (including pictures) and sound-letter information across the entire word.
- Develop flexible ways to solve words using meaning, structure and visual (word parts, compound words, prefixes, suffixes, multisyllabic words with a variety of complex spelling patterns).
- Students will continue to build a bank of high frequency words that they recognise automatically within continuous text.

Home reading continues as a daily expectation. We do expect all children to be reading for at least 15 minutes every night. They can read magazines, recipes, comics, T.V guides… Children should be reading for meaning and enjoyment! Children should also be in the habit of looking at their word list which is kept in their Take Home Book Bag.

What we expect the students to learn in Writing:
During this term students will continue to see themselves as writers. They will:
- Understand that writers have choices and make decisions for themselves when writing.
- Make plausible attempts at unknown words, using sound-letter knowledge and known word parts.
• Manage their writing folders and make decisions (by rereading) about a piece of writing when finished or needs further work.
• Rehearse and plan for writing by thinking, talking, sketching or listing.

What we expect the students to learn in Mathematics:
During this term, students will be focussing on Place Value and will explore the following:
• Read, write, order and interpret 2 digit numbers.
• Counting forwards and backwards from 1 – 100 and skip counting by 2’s, 5’s, 10’s starting from 0 and identifying patterns.

Important Dates:
• Wednesday 25th of February: Parent Teacher meetings 1pm – 8pm
• Monday 9th of March: Labour Day Holiday (Public Holiday)
• Thursday 20th March: Harmony Day Celebrations.
• Friday 27th of March: Last day of Term 1 2.30pm Dismissal. (Casual Dress Day)

Please note Term 2 will commence on Monday 13th of April.

Specialist lessons days:

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<th>Year Level</th>
<th>VISUAL ARTS</th>
<th>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</th>
<th>INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY</th>
<th>LIBRARY</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE ARTS</th>
<th>LOTE-SPANISH</th>
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We are also encouraging our students to develop Sun-Smart behaviours. This includes:
• Ensuring that they wear hats throughout the year (especially in the warmer months of Term One and Term Four).
• Encouraging the students to place sunscreen on themselves before school at home.
• Encouraging the students to bring along a 30+ roll on sunscreen that they can use to put on themselves during the day.

Other information:

Absences
• If your child is absent from school, a note explaining the absence is required.

Valuables
• To avoid any problems please do not send valuable toys or other items to school.

Personal Belongings
• Please label all personal items, especially school jumpers as they are an expensive item to replace if lost.

House Keeping:
• Thank-you to parents who have already sent 2 boxes of tissues for the year.
• Due to the extremely warm weather we encourage all students to bring a labelled refillable water bottle to school. No sticky drinks will be allowed in the classroom.
• Requests – supermarket or store catalogues to be used for Numeracy activities.
• Purchase a Green Take Home Book Bag from the office if your child does not have one.

Please feel free to contact your child’s teacher if you have any concerns.
Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Grade 1-2 Teachers