

Early Stage 1 Curriculum Overview – Term 1, 2021

English

Reading & Viewing – To support and extend student learning, Students will be participating in literacy groups through modelled, guided and independent literacy activities. Students will have the opportunity to engage with a variety of rich texts that give them experience of the world around them and the beliefs and value systems of people. Where possible the texts will be integrated with our History unit. Aspects of effective writing techniques used by different authors will be discussed so that it may flow into each student's own writing. We will have a particular text that is studied in depth, and throughout the unit students will be completing a range of related grammar, writing, drama and art lessons.

Guided Reading lessons will occur 5 times a week. Students will be divided into groups according to their assessed benchmark level. They will be exposed to quality literature at their instructional level with explicit teaching of comprehension skills, grammar and writing techniques.

Kindergarten students will begin Home Readers in Week 4. We will send the guided reader home each night for students to re-read with their parents. As the book will have been introduced and unknown words taught during a lesson with the teacher that day, they should be able to read the text with some fluency. This is an opportunity for students to confidently read a book that they have already read. Please ensure books are returned each day.

During Term 1, 4 single sounds will be explicitly taught each week. Time will be spent during the week introducing the sounds, writing, blending and manipulating them using resources such as magnetic boards and letters, whiteboards and markers and other exciting literacy game resources on the Interactive White Board (IWB). During Terms 2, 3 and 4 we will introduce blends.

The sight word program will begin the week of Monday February 15 and will involve students learning sets of sight words from the Magic 100 Words (M100W) program. There are 12 colour-coded sets of words that students will work through at home. Students will need to bring their book back to school on Fridays once they have mastered the list. Please be aware that we ask students to read the words in random order, not in the order they are on the sheet. If your child rote learns them in order, they may not actually be able to read the words at school. Words need to be read without hesitation. If mastered, students will receive a certificate and the next level of words. These will be pasted in their sight word book.

Writing & Representing – Students will be involved in writing lessons each day, encouraged to attempt their own writing after repeated demonstrations by teachers. Initially their writing may be pictures, scribbles and known letters or words. They may dictate a sentence or copy from the whiteboard or IWB at first, however, as their skills develop, they are encouraged to write independently using sound charts, sight words, word banks and their knowledge of letter-sound relationships.

Handwriting – Students are encouraged to sit up straight and hold their pencils correctly. We use triangular pencils to encourage students to hold their pencil between their thumb, pointer finger and middle finger with the other 2 fingers tucked underneath. They will practice their fluency patterns, tracing and copying the letters in the NSW Foundation handwriting style. Weekly handwriting lessons will relate to single sounds.

Speaking and Listening – Throughout the term students will be involved in a range of informal speaking and listening activities. We will be focussing on developing each student's active listening skills this term and confidence in addressing the class. Students are encouraged to make eye contact with the audience and use a loud clear voice. The NEWS program will begin the week of Monday February 22 and the news topics will be provided at the parent information session. Weekly topics will be based on the History and Science units.

Mathematics

Concepts will be covered in the content strands of:

Strand	Concept			
Number and Algebra	Whole Number	Addition	Subtraction	Patterns and Algebra
Measurement and Geometry	Length	2D Space	Position	Time
Statistics and Probability	Data			

Teaching and learning activities will develop skills in the **Working Mathematically** area: questioning, applying strategies, communicating, reasoning and reflecting. The emphasis is *hands on*, which means the students participate in activities that encourage them to work with concrete materials (materials that they can touch and manipulate). The students participate in a wide variety of structured and open-ended activities which allow students to work at their own level. Each week our program consists of 5 lessons.

Science & Technology

Students will begin a unit entitled *Staying Alive*. Through an inquiry-based approach, students will be engaged in learning about the different features and basic needs of living things.

The content engages students in the processes of Working Scientifically, and Design and Production. Students will participate in guided investigations, pose and respond to questions and make predictions. Students will collect and represent information using a variety of methods and safely manipulate equipment and materials, making sustainable and time-efficient choices.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are utilised across all Key learning Areas to enhance learning. Students have daily access to Chromebooks &/or iPads. We will be focused on developing research, production and presentation skills.

K-2 teachers will use *Seesaw* as an announcement platform for upcoming events and class news. It serves to connect families to view their child's work and gain an insight to their learning progress. Teachers will aim to post weekly with additional content shared for special events such as excursions and incursions. Please check your child's bag on Wednesday February 10 for a note with your child's personal QR access code.

Please note *Seesaw* is not a platform to privately message your child's teacher. If you wish to contact them, please send an email to the school [mosman-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au] and it will be forwarded to the teacher for reply.

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

HSIE will be taught in conjunction with English. The Semester 1 unit is entitled Personal and Family Histories through which students will:

- identify and describing their own history and that of their family;
- describe how the past is different from the present through stories of their own and other cultures;

- acquire information by direct observation, talking to others and by viewing, reading and listening to texts;
- communicate stories of their own family heritage and the heritage of others; and
- sequence familiar events in order and pose questions about their family's past.

Creative Arts

The visual arts learning program will be linked to the rich texts that students are reading in class. Opportunities will be provided to regularly explore their own creativity through making and appreciating artworks, as well as studying various artists and techniques.

Music will be taught this year as a specialist program by Mrs O'Neill [Term 1] and Mrs Tauber [Terms 2 to 4]. See **General Information** for further details.

Personal Development / Health / Physical Education

PD / Health

Personal development and health lessons will focus on how a student's uniqueness shapes who they are. They will also engage in the Peer Support program to develop positive peer relations.

PE/Sport

Specialist Sport Program

Physical education lessons will be taught by the class teachers following a sequential sport skills program. Your child will be participating in Physical Education (PE) on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Every 3rd week, students will participate in a program delivered by **Fit Futures**. All programs run by Fit Futures are provided by qualified teachers. The programs are designed to maximise participation and development of all students. They provide a comprehensive range of age specific equipment for students to use. During Fit Futures lessons, the students will rotate through 3 different skill-based activities, for the duration of 40 minutes [120 minutes in total].

The programs in Term 1:

Gymnastics - This program aims to give students the opportunity to practise the skills at their own pace. Students will be taught by qualified gymnastics instructors to ensure technique is taught correctly.

Students are assessed on the following 3 categories throughout the duration of the program:

- jump, swing, strength
- rolls, floor work and locomotion
- rhythmic and composition

Athletics - This program aims to give students the opportunity to learn and practise the skills of each track and field event in preparation for their school athletics carnival. It is designed to cater for students of all levels starting with basic skills progressing to refining technique.

Students are assessed on the following 3 categories throughout the duration of the program:

- throwing
- jumping
- sprint/running

Specialist Programs Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Library	KOlive KLychee			KApple KStrawberry KGrape	
Mandarin	KApple KOlive KGrape KStrawberry			KLychee	
Music	KGrape KApple KLychee KStrawberry			KOlive	