

Junior Newsletter Term Three

Welcome Back:

After a very busy first half year, it was great to see all the enthusiastic and happy faces back for another term at school. The children have impressed us with their eagerness to settle straight back into school life.

Classroom Helpers:

Thank you to all our dedicated classroom helpers who have worked in classrooms in Term 1 and 2. If you need to make any changes to the times you are in classrooms this term please let your child's teacher know.

Deep Knowledge Unit:

This term our Deep Knowledge unit is entitled *Looking After Myself*. This unit will provide students with the opportunity to investigate the factors that contribute to a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Students will identify factors such as food choices and physical activity as healthy lifestyle choices. They will learn to make healthy food choices according to healthy eating models, and to consider the factors that influence their choice of foods. They begin to recognize the importance of a variety and frequency of food consumption for an active and healthy life. They will learn about the Healthy Diet Pyramid. Students will also explore the way physical activity can be incorporated into a balanced lifestyle. The Olympics will provide an opportunity to look at a range of sports and highlight the importance of regular exercise.

Homework:

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

It is another opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework routines from early primary school. The government requirements state that homework in the early years of schooling should not exceed 30 minutes a day.

This term our homework consists of:

Reading – 5 times a week for at least 15 – 20 minutes.

Maths – Your child will bring home an activity sheet that outlines the homework that needs to be completed once a fortnight. Please help your child with this homework if he/she requires assistance. You must complete at least **one** of the options listed for each week. However, your child may decide to complete all three of them. Please ensure that your child returns his/her homework book on the due date.

Spelling – Your child will continue to bring home his/her 'Challenge Words' that are being learnt in class. Please help your child to learn these words. Please see spelling ideas attached.

Show and Share – The show and share timetable has been sent home. Please see your child's teacher if you need a new sheet.

Healthy Eating:

Students are encouraged to have a bottle of water on their table throughout the day. They are also allowed to bring along fresh **cut up** fruit in a container to eat throughout the day as a snack. ***Please ensure that the fruit has been cut up!!***



Peanut Butter

We have several children in the Junior Unit who are very allergic to nut products including peanut butter, Nutella and any other foods containing nuts. To ensure their safety we ask that parents try not to give their child Peanut Butter in either lunches or snacks as even a tiny amount could be extremely dangerous.

You Can Do It:

This term the foundation that we will be learning about is confidence.

Confidence means feeling I can do it and having trust in yourself. Confidence also means not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new. The information below provides some different examples that demonstrate confident behaviour.

- ~ I am likeable and good at doing many things.
- ~ Not being afraid to make mistakes when learning something new.
- ~ Believing that I am successful when learning something new.
- ~ Not being afraid to meet new people
- ~ Choosing to participate in a new activity with new friends.
- ~ Introducing myself to someone new.
- ~ Looks at people directly in the eye when speaking to them.
- ~ Speaks loudly enough so everyone can clearly hear.
- ~ Does a new activity without asking for help.

Please encourage and praise your child if they are showing some confident behaviour.

School Bags:

Please encourage your child to find a safe and sensible spot around the school ground to leave his/her bag in the morning. We are encouraging students to move their bags away from the ramp area between the two building and around classroom doors.

Wet Weather Mornings:

Due to our recent wet weather it is important that you remind your child about sensible sheltered places to stand in the morning if it is raining. Students will be allowed into the building on wet days at 8:45 when announcement is made.

Diaries:

Diaries must be brought to school daily.

Swimming

Just a reminder that our swimming program takes place next term



S w i m m i n g

Concert:

The date for the school concert is Thursday 11th September at the Arena.

Concert Act:	Grades:
Sailors	Junior S Junior B Junior W Junior H
Trains	Junior L Junior M Junior J Junior G

Students will be learning their songs in 2 groups. We will be practising our songs and dances over the term. Costuming suggestions will be sent home shortly. More information will be sent home as soon as possible.

Reading Comprehension

At mid year all Junior Unit students at Bellaire are tested to assess their overall reading ability. This testing includes both the reading of words and an understanding of a text. Alongside our regular weekly monitoring and assessment, the information from this testing is used to group students and select texts for reading lessons.

From this testing it is clear that many students can read the words in a text without a clear understanding of the meaning.

This term we will be placing emphasis on understanding the meaning of texts, particularly on the reasons behind events, rather than moving students up onto 'harder' reading levels. This may mean that the books that your child brings home to read are easy at a word level. We ask that you place an emphasis on comprehension and question your child about why events occurred or why characters behaved in a certain way.

Reading Challenge

It is great to see that so many Junior students have completed the Reading Challenge. Please continue to remember to record the books that your child has read. The Reading Challenge must be completed by 31st August. Please see your child's classroom teacher if you have any concerns.

**French Olympics**

On Wednesday 13th August we will be having a French Mini-Olympics in the Junior Unit. It will go from 9:00-12:30 finishing with a picnic on the oval. We will commence with an opening ceremony and then students will complete a series of rotations with a French theme. We invite parents and family to attend. Students are to wear school uniform on the day but we would like them to wear a French accessory such as a beret or scarf. If you have any questions concerning the day, please ask Miss Price.

Volunteers for fitness/health sessions

Please return your forms if you are able to run a fitness/health session.

Thank you
Junior Unit Teachers