



Grade F/1/2 - Term 1 - Newsletter



Welcome to the 2022 school year! Students have had a fantastic start to the year and it has been great to see how quickly they have settled into our classroom routines. We're looking forward to a great year ahead!

Your Teacher - Miss Rodger

This year is my sixth year teaching at Willowmavin. I have previously taught Year One, Two and Three students and am very excited to be teaching our F/1/2 class this year. I will also be teaching Visual Art to our junior school students. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy some time to relax over the holiday break, I know I enjoyed being able to spend some time at the beach.



Key Dates

- Fri 11th Feb** – Cluster Swimming Sports
- Tues 15th Feb** – Welcome Picnic
- Wed 16th Feb** – Meet the Teacher Interviews
- Mon 14th Mar** – Labour Day Public Holiday
- Fri 8th Apr** – Last day of Term 1 – 2:00pm finish
- Tue 26th Apr** – Term 2 begins



Reading

In Reading this term, we will be focusing on developing students' decoding skills. Students will build on their recognition and knowledge of graphs (single letters and their sounds) and digraphs (two letters representing one sound (e.g. 'ph')). Towards the end of the term, we will explore the features of narratives. Students will be involved in a variety of activities to support their learning, including independent reading, one-on-one teacher conferences, hands on activities and small teacher-focus groups.



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Writing

This term, we will be focusing on the genres of recount and narrative writing. As we write recounts, students will be learning about conventions, such as letter formation, spacing, capital letters and full stops, as well as developing spelling knowledge. As we write narratives, students will focus on using simple sentences and images to sequence ideas, including a beginning, middle and ending.



Maths

This term, students will be learning about place value and counting, as well as shape and chance in the latter part of the term. We will be focusing on counting forwards and backwards, by ones, twos, fives and tens, from zero and non-zero starting points (learning tasks are differentiated to match students' next piece of learning). Students will also build on their understanding of place value as they learn to read, model, write and order numbers. In our unit on shape, students will focus on naming, sorting and describing two and three-dimensional shapes. Finally, as we learn about chance, we will focus on using language, such as 'likely', 'might happen' and 'impossible', to describe the likelihood of familiar events.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry topic for this term is 'The History of Me', where we will be focusing on personal history. Students will have the opportunity to share, describe and understand information related to themselves, their family and celebrations, whilst exploring the past, present and future.



Specialist Classes for F/1/2

Students will participate in specialist classes each week. These will be Visual Art, P.E., Italian and DigiTech.

Visual Art – Miss Elsie Rodger – Tuesday

This term, students will be focusing on understanding and using the art element of line. Students will focus on drawing, using materials such as pencil, crayon, marker, pastel and paint to create a range of artworks.

P.E. – Miss Sarah Hurd – Tuesday

In P.E., we will be exploring a range of games, sports and activities throughout the term with a specific focus on building students fundamental movement skills. This will involve running, jumping, hopping, catching, throwing, kicking and plenty of fun.

Italian – Mrs Mel O'Callaghan – Wednesday

Piacere! (pee-ah-cherch) In English, it means, 'pleasure', but Italians usually say this to mean "Nice to meet you!". And in Italian this term, as part of our "Piacere" unit, we are learning about Italian traditions and language related to meeting and greeting people. Students will be introduced to the country of Italy, begin learning how to have simple meet and greet social interactions, and begin learning some basics such as counting to ten and singing 'Happy Birthday'.



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DigiTech – Mrs Mel O’Callaghan – Wednesday

Starting a new year in a new school, the theme of “Nice to Meet You” follows into DigiTech this term. To help me get to know the students as tech users and as young people, students will focus on strategies for being an ‘eSafe Kid’ by being *safe, kind* and *secure* when online. They will also have opportunities to express themselves through creating digital art and posters about themselves using the Tux Paint and Pic Collage Edu iPad applications.

**Please note, in the first 4 weeks, specialist classes may take place on different days due to timetable adjustments as a result of Foundation assessment days.*

Arriving on Time



It is vital that students arrive at school on time. **School begins at 8:50am** and it is expected that all students will be in their classrooms ready to start learning at this time. The classroom is open and the school grounds supervised from 8:35am each morning. Students are encouraged to come into the classroom to get their belongings organised for the day before heading outside to play. I strongly suggest that students arrive at school close to 8:35am so that they can have time to settle, socialise and engage with peers prior to formal learning beginning at 8:50am. When students arrive late, not only do they miss out on important learning and information for the day, but it also disrupts the learning and focus of other students in the class. Students that arrive after 8:50am must sign in at the office.

**EVERY MINUTE COUNTS...
JUST A LITTLE BIT DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT...**

When you child misses just...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour & 40 minutes per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years



End of Class Learning

Learning in the classroom concludes at 2:55pm, at which time students are dismissed to the yard. Families that have indicated a 2:55pm pick-up time for their child are dismissed at this time. Families that have indicated a 3:00pm pick-up time for their child will have 5 minutes to play on the playground, before the music will play indicating the conclusion of the school day. Supervision of the yard ceases at 3:05pm. At this time, students whose parent/guardian has yet to arrive for pick up, will be sent to the office and parents/guardians will need to collect them from there.



Foundation Student Attendance

For the first four weeks of Term 1, Foundation students will not attend school on Wednesdays. They will attend two appointments for their Literacy and Numeracy assessments. A note with the date and time for your child’s assessments was sent home at the end of 2021. From Week 5, beginning February 28th, Foundation students will attend school full time, Monday to Friday.

Assembly

We hold an assembly every Friday, beginning at 2:30pm on the basketball court. Each week, there is a Student of the Week awarded to a student in each class, as well as reading awards for students that achieve reading night milestones. Families are welcome to attend the assembly. In addition, each week one of the classes presents what they have been learning. Usually, a few students from the class will present our learning. You will be notified in advance of our class presenting at assembly.



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Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school, please let us know as soon as possible. The preferred method for absence reporting is via Compass. You can also report an absence by e-mailing myself or by calling the school.

Snacks and Lunch

Please ensure your child has fruit and/or vegetables in their lunch each day. Students have the opportunity to eat a fruit or vegetable snack during the morning learning session, as well as their recess snack and lunch.

10.00am	Fruit or vegetable snack
10.50am – 11.00am	Snack eating
11.00am – 11.30am	Recess: Outside play
1.20pm – 1.30pm	Lunch eating
1.30pm – 2.00pm	Lunch: Outside play



Icy Pole Tuesdays

Icy poles will continue to be sold at lunchtime on Tuesdays. Students can purchase an icy pole from the Junior School Council for \$1 each. Funds raised will go towards student initiatives. Zooper Dooper donations are always welcomed.

Breakfast Club

Unfortunately, we are currently unable to operate the school's breakfast club due to limited staffing. As such, we are seeking parent support to continue to offer school breakfasts this year. This has previously been run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and whilst these are our preferred days, we are open to any day. In particular, we are looking for someone to take a lead role in running our breakfast club. If you are able to assist in any way, small or big, please contact the office. Please keep an eye on Compass for when Breakfast Club will resume.



Timetable

Attached you will find a copy of our timetable for Term 1. This will take affect from Week 5, when Foundation assessments are completed. Please remember that from time to time, changes to the timetable can occur due to happenings throughout the school. In such circumstances it is important to be flexible. Wherever possible, students will be informed in advance of changes to allow for adjustment.

Show and Tell

Students will have a specific day each fortnight where they are able to present to the class if they wish to. Students are encouraged to present about an achievement, something they've made or an event/activity they've attended or participated in. Students are discouraged from presenting toys. Attached is a copy of the Show and Tell roster for Term 1.



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Keep Informed

Please keep an eye out for the school's newsletter which is sent out via Compass fortnightly on Wednesdays. If you have any questions about any information included in the newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me or the office staff. Please also ensure you keep up-to-date with messages sent out on Compass.

Notes and Money

All notes, money, forms or other paperwork are to be brought to the classroom where the classroom teacher can then follow up with or pass on. Please remind your child to use this method rather than dropping things into the office to avoid miscommunication.

Update Details

If your personal details have changed, please contact the office and ensure that they are correct. This includes address, contact numbers, emergency contact details, etc.

Labels

Please ensure all your child's belongings are labelled with their name. This includes lunch containers and clothing items. This way, any lost items can be quickly returned.



Home-School Partnership

In order to provide the best learning opportunities for your child, we want to ensure the best home-school partnership possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any issues or concerns about your child. Any positive feedback is of course also welcomed! We also welcome parent helpers into the classrooms and school. If you would like to help out, please come and speak with me.

Kind regards,

Elsie Rodger

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F/1/2 – Term 1

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:50 – 9:00	SMART Spelling	SMART Spelling	SMART Spelling	SMART Spelling	SMART Spelling
9:00 – 10:00	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
10:00 – 11:00	Writing	Writing	Writing	Handwriting	Writing
11:00 – 11:30	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
11:30 – 12:30	Maths	Maths	Maths	Investigations	Maths
12:30 – 1:30	Handwriting	Art	Italian	Writing	Inquiry
1:30 – 2:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2:00 – 2:55	Word of the Week	P.E.	DiGiTech	Maths	RRRR 2:30 Assembly



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Show and Tell Roster

Even weeks	Monday	Amelia B. Reid
	Tuesday	Rayyan
	Wednesday	Bryce
	Thursday	Evelyn Tess
	Friday	Jack Xavier
Odd weeks	Monday	Jarraah
	Tuesday	Kaiden
	Wednesday	Louis
	Thursday	Lucas Olivia
	Friday	Oliver Amelia S.

Term 1

Even weeks – Week beginning – 7th Feb., 21st Feb., 7th March, 21st March, 4th April

Odd weeks – Week beginning – 31st Jan., 14th Feb., 28th Feb., 14th March, 28th March



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