

# Welcome to Year 1



## Year 1 News – Term 1

Welcome to Term 1! Our Year 1 teachers are looking forward to getting to know you and your child this year. The classes for 2025 are:

- 1A – Mrs Avard (Mon-Thu) and Mrs Paiva (Fri)
- 1M – Mrs McCarthy
- 1T – Mrs Taylor
- 1G – Mrs Giess (Assistant Principal Mon-Wed) and Miss Holman (Thu-Fri)
- 1J – Mrs Jongma (Relieving Assistant Principal Thu-Fri).

### Dates for your diary

- ✓ Meet the teacher evening **1A, 1M, 1T, 1G:** \*Tuesday 25 February 6-6:45pm  
\*Optional school tour 5.30pm  
**1J:** Tuesday 4 March 5:30-6:15pm

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✓ Scripture commences	Wednesday 26 February
✓ ANZAC Service	Monday 7 April from 9.30am
✓ Last Day of Term 1	Friday 11 April
✓ Staff Development Days	Monday 28 & Tuesday 29 April
✓ First Day of Term 2	Wednesday 30 April

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### English

English incorporates many different areas of learning which will be covered every term. These areas include phonics (sounds and letters), handwriting, reading, writing, viewing and discussing texts and speaking and listening. These areas will be taught in short units of work. Over the course of these units, students will learn:

- How personal experiences shape their understanding of texts.
- About the elements of a story including characters, setting and structure.
- The features of animals and explore how objects, people and ideas can be represented in different ways.
- How author's create characters using a variety of language features and visual elements. Students will learn about making inferences, comparing characters and using quotation marks for simple dialogue.

Throughout the course of these units of work, students will focus on writing well-punctuated sentences using noun groups and prepositional phrases.

Each student will also participate in guided reading sessions with their class teacher in a small, focused group to continue developing their skills in reading.

### Mathematics



Students will develop their ability to work mathematically by reasoning, problem solving and communicating across the strands *Number and Algebra, Measurement and Space, and Statistics and Probability*. Mathematics content will be connected across these strands to enable students to develop a deep understanding of the following concepts.

## Number and Algebra

- Counting forwards and backwards by ones
- Developing an understanding of place value in two- and three-digit numbers
- Recognising and recalling number bonds to ten
- Representing groups of ten in whole numbers
- Develop different strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems
- Skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s

## Measurement and Space

- Recognise and name two dimensional shapes
- Classify two dimensional shapes by comparing their features
- Compare and order lengths using informal units
- Measure and compare the area, volume and mass of objects using informal units

## Statistics and Probability

- Ask questions and gather data
- Display data in tables and simple graphs

## Geography

This semester, Stage 1 students will explore places across a range of scales within Australia, including places that exist on a personal, local and national level. In addition, students will investigate Australia's location in the world. They will describe connections people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, have with places, both locally and globally and identify factors affecting people's accessibility to places.



## Creative Arts

Stage 1 students will participate in visual arts, music and drama lessons. They will create a self-portrait inspired by folk artist Heather Galler, using thick & thin outlining and oil pastels. Within music lessons, students will learn about the features of music including pitch, dynamics, tempo, structure and tone colour. Students will listen to and discuss the meaning of a range of music and create a short song to accompany a story scene. Within drama lessons, students will explore the use of facial expressions and movement. They will work in groups to take on a character when performing a scene for their class.



## Personal Development and Health (PDH)

Students will be learning about passenger and pedestrian safety, including walking/riding on the footpath and identifying safe places to cross the road. They will explore their rights as a child and describe how they have developed greater independence as they have grown older. In addition, students will discuss and describe changes in their physical appearance now compared to when they were younger.

## Child Protection

Students will engage in some child protection lessons in Term 1. In these lessons, students will explore what it means to be respectful of others such as taking turns, sharing, communicating, and responding appropriately. They will name different groups they belong to and what they like about each group, sharing ideas on how others might feel when excluded or included in groups.

## Science (RFF) with Mrs Pather and Mrs Bradley

Students will be exploring the unit called 'Material World', that focuses on how materials can be changed, manipulated and combined. They will test changes that occur to a material's properties when it is heated and cooled or combined with other materials. Students will have the opportunity to explore the properties of materials and demonstrate the suitability of materials and their uses. To conclude,

students will apply their knowledge developed throughout the unit to design, make, test and evaluate a shelter using different materials.

Students will attend Science on the following days:

**Tuesday – 1J      Thursday – 1A and 1T      Friday – 1G and 1M**

### **PE (RFF) with Mrs Plant**

Students will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills. The skills will include underarm throwing, two-handed strike, hopping, skipping, and catching. The lessons will incorporate a warm-up activity, skill development and a modified game. Students should wear their sports uniform and bring their school hat and drink bottle on their allocated day.

Students will attend PE on the following days:

**Monday – 1A      Tuesday – 1G      Wednesday – 1M      Friday – 1T and 1J**

### **Year 1 Grade Sport**

Sport occurs weekly on a Thursday for all of Year 1. Students should come to school dressed in their sport uniform with their hat and drink bottle. Students will participate in activities which focus on developing locomotor and manipulative skills through relays, running games, underarm throwing, catching, rolling and kicking.



### **Absences**

Absences from school require a note explaining the absence. Absences **must be explained within seven (7) days**. You can submit an absence notification via School Bytes or email [castlehill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:castlehill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au).

Alternatively, a note can accompany your child upon their return to school. All medical certificates should be emailed directly to the school rather than the class teacher. Please advise the front office if your child will be taking an extended absence as this may require the completion of an exemption form. If students arrive at school late or depart early, they must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and must be signed in/out at the front office first.

### **Homework**

Students will complete their homework on a weekly basis. Homework will include 2 pages each week in a spelling booklet and Mathletics. Homework tasks will be sent home or assigned on Monday afternoons and are to be returned on Friday. Children will also participate in a home reading program. Books needs to be recorded onto the Home Reading Card and students should aim to read every night with an adult for 10 minutes.

### **Birthdays**

If you would like your child's birthday to be celebrated at school, you may purchase ice blocks from the school canteen. Please note – ice blocks need to be ordered two days in advance. Please avoid sending in food items such as cupcakes due to food allergies / intolerances.

We are looking forward to an exciting term of learning with you and your child.

Regards,

Year 1 Teachers

