

# Welcome to M8!

Dear families,

Welcome to M8, my name is Nicole McKenzie and I will be your child's class teacher this year. I'm excited to get to know your child and help them to grow to reach their full potential. It is going to be an exciting term in M8 with our term theme focusing on technology and communities from the past and present.

Routines and expectations in M8:

Drink bottles-

Please send your child to school each day with a drink bottle, they will be able to refill their drink bottle throughout the day as needed. It is important for our learners to be hydrated in order to concentrate.



Brain food and snacking throughout the day-



Each morning we have brain food, please send your child with extra 'nude food' to have to power their brains for success. Please send already cut. Students are welcome to snack on 'nude foods' during the day if they are hungry (nutritious foods that are not in wrappers).

Communication (Seesaw)

Seesaw will be used as the main mode of communication. Throughout the year as students develop their digital skills they will be using I pads to send you pictures of their achievements and work in class. Please make sure to download the app, more instructions are to come. Seesaw will be checked between



8:30am-4:00pm, messages sent out of these hours will be responded to the following day.

#### Student folder/homework-

Student folders will be sent home from the beginning of week 3. Students will put any notes that they receive in their student folder, students are responsible for their folder and delivering these to you at home. If you have any money for excursions, banking or other payments please put it in the student folder. As a part of their morning routine, students will put it into our post box for our helpers to organise.



Students homework for term 1 will consist of 15 minutes of reading a night of a levelled reader (borrowed from the library) and practising their spelling words for homework. Students will begin their homework from week 3 once school routines are established. Students will have a reading log glued into the back of their homework book to be filled in for homework each night. Homework will be Monday-Thursday only.

#### Lining up/collection at the end of the day-

Students are to line up along the library wall each morning and wait to be collected by their teacher, they're not to come up the staircase. If students arrive past 8:40am the class will already be upstairs and students will need to go to the office to receive a late slip and then come upstairs. The main door we enter through to get to our classroom is a high traffic area and can become congested in the mornings. Students are not allowed in the building prior to the teacher collecting the class.

At the end of each day students will be escorted to the front of the school for pick up, this will either be by the class teacher or specialist teacher. Students will be supervised by the teacher on yard study once escorted.

#### Library borrowing-

Students have the opportunity to borrow and return library books on a Monday. Please make sure your child brings their library books to school on a Monday so they are able to be swapped over. This is student's opportunity to borrow readers for homework.



### Class library-

You may have noticed that there is also a range of books in the class, this is our class library and have been purchased by myself. These books are for students to use, read and enjoy while they're at school. Students are aware that these are not to be taken home, if you would like readers or books to be brought home please direct your child to borrow from the library.

### Stationery-

At the beginning of the year students were supplied with books, a student folder, lead pencil and will share communal coloured pencils and textas. Students are responsible for their belongings, they will be provided with a new lead pencil each term or if it is getting too small. If students lose their lead pencil, it will need to be replaced from home. Students have access to other shared stationery as needed.



### Recycling and repurposing in making-

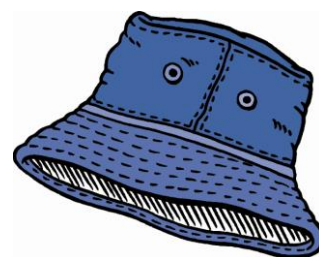
If you have any cardboard recyclable items or old art and craft supplies that you no longer need we would love if you could donate them to our making box which will be located in the wet area outside of our classroom from week 3. Any items that students can use to be creative and make with would be greatly appreciated!

### Catalogues and brochures-

If you have any extra catalogues or brochures at home that are appropriate for students to use, we would love you to send them to school with your child, these are a great resource to use in learning tasks.

### NO HAT, NO PLAY-

Please make sure your child has a wide brimmed hat, in term 1 and 4 it is compulsory for them to wear a hat to protect them from the sun. In terms 2 and 3, students are required to wear a hat if the UV is over 3.



## Learning Focus-

Each term in M8 we will have a learning theme, this term our focus is technology and communities from the past and present, please read below to see what your child will be learning about this term.

### English-

In English this term students will be using Words Their Way as their spelling program with words that have been tailored to their developmental stage. In writing, students will be learning about persuasive texts and will write a persuasive text with a focus on objects from the past and present. In reading students will be working to improve their reading level by learning to infer and make connections through modelled and independent reading opportunities.

### Mathematics-

In mathematics students will be learning about place value, revising 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers, learning to work with 5 digit numbers. They will be developing their skills in addition and subtractions using a range of strategies.

### Integrated Studies-

(Geography, history and design and technologies)

Students in M8 will be learning through an integrated approach, working on activities and mini projects that cover their curriculum but relate back to our main focus of past and present.

In geography and history this term, M8 will be working with M7 and R12 to learn collaboratively about technology and communities from the past and in the present. We will explore aspects that have changed and remained the same over time. Students will explore topics such as technology, clothes, toys, transport, electronics and music.

In technologies this term students be learning about safe practices when using their Chromebooks, login skills, use of Google Drive and various skills to assist students in creating digital pieces of work.

### Dance-

This term students will be learning dancing skills with Mrs Chawla as part of their specialist subjects.

### Health-

This term students will have the focus on 'the right to be safe', we will discuss being safe, warning signs, risk taking and emergencies as a part of the Child Protection Curriculum. The Child Protection Curriculum is a compulsory Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) program that is implemented to educate school children how to keep themselves safe.

### Specialist Subjects:

Students will attend 6 specialist lessons per week

Tuesday- Science Mr Williams

Wednesday- Dance, Mrs Chawla, Science Mr Williams,

Thursday- P.E Mr Thom, Italian Miss Rachel

Friday- P.E Mr Thom

### Important Dates:

Week 3, Tuesday 9/2/21, Acquaintance Afternoon

Week 5, Monday 22/2/21, Pupil Free Day

Week 7, Monday 8/3/21, Adelaide Cup Day No School

Week 8, Monday-Thursday, 15-18/3/21, Interview Week

Week 9, Monday 22/3/21, Harmony Day

Week 9, Friday 26/3/21, Sports Day

Week 10, Thursday 1/4/21, Pupil Free Day

Week 10, Friday 2/4/21, Good Friday No School

Week 11, Monday 5/4/21. Easter Monday No School

Week 11, Friday 9/4/21, Last Day of Term, Early Dismissal 2pm

