

Wednesday 7 February 2024



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to Kindergarten!

The children have settled into their first days at school and are looking forward to the exciting and engaging year ahead. Please read the section regarding lunch boxes and containers to assist your child.

A warm welcome is extended to our new families who have joined the Terrey Hills community.

This note provides some information relevant to your child's routines and requirements. We will cover this information and subsequent information in more detail at the Parent Information Night on **Monday 19th February at 5:30pm** in the Kindergarten classrooms. **Further information regarding this will be in the newsletter.**



Terrey Hills Vision: Children are always the only future the human race has; teach them well.

- Provide them with love and belonging.
- Enable them to be powerful.
- Create freedom for them to choose.
- Inspire them to have fun.
- Ensure they have everything they need to survive.

Terrey Hills Public School is committed to ensuring that how we teach your child is based on what we know makes the biggest difference to their learning.

Staff use current research and evidence-based practices in effective teaching. The themes that we use to guide our teaching come from the Departments' 'What works best: 2020 update'. The practices include:

- High expectations
- Explicit teaching
- Effective feedback
- Use of data to inform practice
- Assessment
- Classroom management
- Wellbeing

Class Timetables

<u>Weekly routines</u>	KB	1/KW
Monday		
Tuesday	Scripture Class Sport- Please wear sports uniform	Scripture Class Sport- Please wear sports uniform
Wednesday	Library – Ms Danielle Wilson	Library – Ms Danielle Wilson Music – Miss Jaimie Deakin
Thursday	Music – Miss Jaimie Deakin Italian – Mrs Evina Leroux	Italian – Mrs Evina Leroux
Friday	Assembly every fortnight	Assembly every fortnight



English and Mathematics K–2 Syllabus

English and Mathematics K–2 syllabuses have been released. These are the first syllabuses of the NSW Curriculum Reform and are key to building strong foundations in the ‘early years’. The evidence-based syllabuses are designed to improve student outcomes by focusing on essential learning and building foundational skills in English and Mathematics.

Literacy and Numeracy skills in the early years are essential foundations for later success at school.

Literacy and Numeracy skills:

- unlock children’s academic potential
- improve children’s overall academic outcomes
- set students up to thrive, learn and re-learn throughout their schooling and beyond.
- It has been 30 years since the last significant reform of the NSW curriculum. The world has changed and the curriculum has grown over this time.
- Feedback from public consultation confirmed that many syllabuses have too much content, and that contemporary-issues content and topics, and compliance requirements, are crowding out teaching and learning time.
- The NSW Curriculum Reform is starting with the foundations for our youngest students.
- The first new syllabuses are English and Mathematics K–2. These, and all subsequent reform syllabuses, are released on a new, purpose-built Digital Curriculum.

All the outcomes for English K–2 fall under 2 key processes for Understanding texts and Creating texts.

Outcomes and content are organised under:

- Oral language and communication
- Vocabulary
- Phonological awareness (ES1)
- Print conventions (ES1) and Phonic knowledge
- Reading fluency and Reading comprehension
- Creating written texts, Spelling, Handwriting
- Understanding and responding to literature.

Weeks	Phonic Knowledge	Conceptual unit
2		Context
3	s, a, t, p	Context
4	s, a, t, p	Narrative
5	m,i,c,f	Narrative
6	m,l,c,f	Character
7	b,h,n,o	Character
8	b,h,n,o	Imagery, symbol and connotation
9	d,g,l,v	Imagery, symbol and connotation
10	d,g,l,v	Perspective
11	Consolidation/Revision	Perspective



In **Mathematics**, explicit teaching occurs daily. Each lesson follows the structure of explicit introduction to the key concept with a focus on number talks and unpacking the vocabulary around the mathematical concept. Our lessons involve the teacher working through guided, worked examples with the class, with a focus on working out and using the ‘think aloud’ strategy. Students then undertake independent activities that are differentiated to suit their ability level. Through each lesson, students are encouraged to share their answers, strategies and also listen to the solutions of others to build a working bank of mathematical strategies. Below is an outline of the focus for Term 1.

Strand	Sub strand focus
Number and Algebra	Representing whole numbers
	Combining and separating quantities
	Forming groups
Measurement and Geometry	Geometric measure (Length)
	Two-dimensional spatial structure (2D shapes and Area)
	Three-dimensional spatial structure (3D objects and Volume)
	Non-spatial measure (Mass)
Statistics and Probability	Data



Kindergarten will be studying the unit 'Weather in My World'. This unit provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding about the air, sun, and wind by participating in hands-on activities. Through investigations, they will increase their knowledge of how the characteristics of weather affect their daily lives.

History

In History, students will be exploring and sharing observations about what makes them unique including physical characteristics, likes and dislikes. They will discuss how they have grown and changed over time through studying the unit, 'Who Am I?'.



In **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**, we will be learning about health and wellbeing through **Bounce Back** and Life Education. Kindergarten students will engage in sports activities on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Library

We are excited to welcome the Kindergarten students to the library. This term during Library, students will be learning about borrowing and caring for books. They will learn the places in the library where they can find books suitable for younger readers and will be taught how to choose books that are interesting to them. We will be reading and discussing a broad selection of picture books.

Kindergarten can borrow ONE book at a time, with a loan period of two weeks. Students will need a library bag to protect the books they borrow from being damaged. Students will not be able to borrow without a library bag or if they have outstanding books at home.

Premier's Reading Challenge

All students are encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. In Kindergarten students will read all 30 of the required books during class and library lessons. Personal Reading Logs will be managed by Ms Danielle Willson in the Library. Parents are encouraged to read aloud to their children each night, and the PRC reading list is a fantastic resource to assist in selecting quality children's literature. Further information will be communicated via School Bytes when the challenge commences at the end of February.



Homework for Kindergarten students includes spending about 10 to 15 minutes daily (or more if you like!) reading and revising sight words with an adult. You could take turns reading with your child so that you can model what good readers do. Class teachers will discuss these procedures at the Parent Information Night and send home sight words.

Class Stationery Requirements

Please refer to the list of stationery requirements that was sent out in December 2023. All items sent to school need to be labelled with your child's name.

Drop Off and Pick Up Arrangements

8:50-9:10 am: Kindergarten students are asked to put their school bags in their lockers and then they may play under the canteen COLA or the adjacent play equipment. Please note that children are not to play in the playground adjacent to Cooyong Road before school as this playground is not supervised.

3:10 pm School Pick Up: Please wait in or near the canteen COLA. Teachers will bring the children to the canteen COLA and wait with your child until they can locate you.

Play Equipment

For safety reasons students are not permitted to play on the playground equipment after school. Students use the equipment during the school day under staff supervision. We appreciate your assistance by not letting your child/children on the equipment after school.

Lunch Boxes and Containers

Please only send a small recess and lunch container with your child. Some of the children are finding the larger containers difficult to fit into their bags.

Fruit Break

Each day at 10:00 am the children will have fruit break. The children should bring in a small snack of fresh fruits or vegetables for example carrot/celery sticks, strawberries, apricots (no processed food). Please cut all fruit/vegetables and place in a separate container to their recess and lunch.

Allergies

Please notify us of any allergies your child may have. Please be aware that some students may have nut allergies. Please do not send products containing nuts or traces of nuts to school.

Birthday Treats

Parents may send in individually wrapped treats only or Ice blocks (which are available to purchase through the canteen).

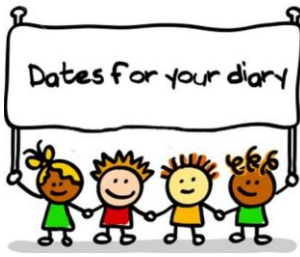
Absences

If your child has been absent from school, please provide written notification to explain the absence either via the school office or using the school app.

Best Start Assessment

Every Kindergarten child has been assessed individually. In the coming weeks you will receive a report on your child's literacy and numeracy skills and some ideas for how you can assist their learning at home.

Diary Dates



- **Parent Information Evening** – Monday 19th February 5:30 pm
- **Swimming Carnival** – Wednesday 28th February (Years 3-6 and optional for 8 year old Year 2 students only)
- **Good Friday** – Friday 29 March (Public holiday)
- **Easter Monday** – Monday 1 April (Public holiday)
- **Healthy Harold** – Week 10 (2 – 4 April)
- **Easter Har Parade** – Week 9 Date to be advised
- **Parent Teacher Interviews** – **Weeks 10 and 11 Dates and times to be confirmed.**

School Information and Communication – School Bytes App

It is highly recommended that all families at the school have the school app. The app is used for emergency and general communication sharing, it is also how all permission notes for excursions are distributed. The following functions are also available from the app:

- Report absences
- Report changes of addresses / phone details
- Link to school newsletter via Parent Calendar



Health Alert

A student in our school is currently receiving treatment for a chronic illness which results in a lowered immune system, this means, the student is more prone to getting ill from infections. This student is not contagious but, it is important he/she participates actively in the day-to-day school program without any major limitations.

A major concern is that if this student develops measles, chickenpox, whooping cough or influenza, he/she could become seriously ill. I seek your cooperation in preventing this situation. If your child has or may have chickenpox or measles, I would ask that you please:

- Do not send them to school.
- Notify the Office and Principal as soon as possible.
- Take them to your GP or medical centre to confirm the diagnosis if possible.

Communication

To ensure **concerns or queries regarding your child are actioned it is important that the school office be contacted either by phone or email.** This is to ensure that messages are received and passed on to the appropriate person (whether that be a teacher or your child). Please ensure that, if you do email your teacher through the school office, you put the teacher's name in the subject line. Normal school office hours are 8.30am – 3.30pm and messages will only be forwarded during these times.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher via the school email: terreyhill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or phoning the school office on 9450 1612.

We are looking forward to a wonderful first year of school for your child and getting to know your child and you throughout the year.

Kind Regards

Mrs Angela Biefeld & Mrs Michelle Wilson

Kindergarten Class Teachers

Mrs Adrienne Bruce

Principal