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Room 18 Parent Information

Hello and welcome to Year Five in Room 18 for 2020. My name is Sam James and I will be your child's teacher this year. This is my second year teaching Year Five and I am looking forward to working with you and your child throughout 2020.

Year Five is a busy year with many different activities on the agenda. We have our TAGS program for selected students, extra-curricular activities and the usual assortment of sports carnivals, assemblies and clubs. NAPLAN is at the start of Term Two and more correspondence will be sent out closer to the date. Additionally, Term 4 brings with it the voting for next year's student councillors and faction captains. All Year Five students will be encouraged to apply for this fantastic opportunity, however are reminded that their leadership potential will be continuously assessed throughout the school year by both their peers and staff.

Timetable and Specialist Teachers

In Year Five, students are fortunate to have four specialist teachers take them throughout the week.

- Science: Mrs Cindy Graham (Monday Period 3 and Wednesday Period 2)
- HASS: Mrs Tara Schmidt (Thursday Period 2)
- Chinese Language: Ms Sue Ung (Friday Period 3)
- Physical Ed: Miss Sharni Winter (Wednesday Period 1)

On Friday afternoons we have library. In order for students to borrow books from the library, they must bring a library bag to school on this day. These books must be looked after when taken home, as there may be a fee for lost or damaged books.

On Friday afternoons, Year Five students participate in clubs with their Year Four to Six peers. There is an assortment of clubs available to students each term. There is a one-off cost of \$15 for the year. Students are reminded that participation in clubs is a privilege and not a right, and any behaviour not in keeping with O'Connor's FAIR values may result in exclusion from these enjoyable extra-curricular activities.

School Assemblies

The senior assembly occurs each fortnight on a Friday morning in Term One and Four, starting at approximately 8:50. In Term Two and Three, senior assemblies will take place on Thursday afternoons, starting at approximately 1:50. There are also a number of whole school assemblies throughout the school year. You will be notified about these via the school newsletter and the Skoolbag App.

Behaviour Policy

The aim of our behaviour policy is to reduce the interruptions to your child's education and to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for your child to learn in. As a whole class, Room 18 have worked together to establish a set of expectations to be followed both inside the classroom and out in the playground. Students will be continually supported in making good choices and positively rewarded for demonstrating behaviour in line with these expectations.

Students displaying behaviour in accordance with our class expectations will be rewarded through whole-school approaches such as FAIR tokens, Goldies, the Circle of Life passport and merit certificates. There is also a behaviour management system in place which includes a series of warnings, reflection time and removal to buddy class or the office. This could involve loss of privileges or reflection sheets, among other logical consequences and strategies. This process has been discussed with the class and all students are aware of it.

As per school policy, the green reflection forms are sent home and must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to school the following day. I would encourage you to read through and discuss it with your child, as the use of a green reflection form means they have reached a stage where they have been repeatedly disruptive throughout the day.

Communication between teachers and parents is of utmost importance, and you can be assured that I will contact you regarding repeated positive and negative behaviour.

Homework

Constant development of literacy and numeracy skills is essential for lifelong growth. As the year progresses, your child will receive homework tasks to assist in the development of these skills. This will involve spelling, comprehension, and mathematical problem solving tasks. I would also encourage your child to read for 15-20 minutes per school night and complete their pipeline reading challenge. Incentives and rewards are often given for completion of homework tasks to a high standard.

BYOD iPads

iPads are an amazing tool that can empower student learning and increase engagement in the classroom. I plan to use the iPads where possible in my teaching, helping your child to develop important ICT skills. We have a class set of 10 iPads available for students to use.

If your child has a BYOD iPad, I recommended that it is brought to school fully charged each day. I would also highly recommend that a sturdy case and screen protector is purchased to protect the iPad from any damage. When students enter the classroom in the morning, the iPad must be removed from their bags and go in their big trays straight away. The classroom is always locked when empty, preventing any theft or damage from school bags. Information regarding apps can be found on the school website.

Requirements

Hat and Water Bottle

Students must be wearing a hat for all outdoor activities. Any student not wearing a hat during breaks must stay in the undercover area or other shaded areas. School bucket hats can be purchased from the uniform shop. As the temperature in Kalgoorlie can get quite hot, I suggest that students bring a large water bottle to school. These can be brought into the classroom, and students are aware that it is their responsibility to ensure these are filled at break times.

Tissues

During the cooler months, tissues get used quickly. If you have not done so, it would be greatly appreciated if you could please send in a box or two when you are able.

Library Bag All students require a library bag for library books or if they take home any class books. Library bags can be purchased from the library five days a week

Communication

Communication between parents and teachers is necessary to ensure we are working together to further your child's development. If you have anything that you would like to discuss with me, after school is a good time for a quick chat in person or over the phone. If there is something that you would like to discuss in detail, please contact the school office or send in a letter with your child to arrange a suitable time.

I am looking forward to a great year ahead!
Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sam James'.

Mr Sam James
11th February 2020