



Our Vision: To build an inclusive community where our children

Level 1 teachers

1A

Suzanne Condran

Isabella Nocera

1B

Stephanie Lampard

1C

Joh Fitness

Level 2 teachers

2A

Megan Ferguson

Claire Castrillon

2B

Alana Maslan

2C

Owen Davies

Linn Maskell
supporting
Level 2
Mon/Tues

Welcome to Term 1

Welcome back to the 2023 school year!

To our Level 1 families, we welcome you warmly to our JLC building. It is a wonderful space and your child will be well supported in their learning journey this year in the end of the building nearest to our SEPS coffee cart!

To our Level 2 families, welcome back to the JLC! We are thrilled to be further developing your child's confidence and independence in their learning journey whilst helping support students to think deeper and grow. We are very lucky in Level 2 to have Ms Linn Maskell supporting students Monday and Tuesday in the JLC.

Teachers are really looking forward to meeting parents on Feb 15th where you can book in for a 10-minute chat. The focus of these interviews is for teachers and parents to have the opportunity to connect as well as for parents to share any information about their child that will help the classroom teacher/s best support students at school.

If you need to meet with your child's teacher for a chat at any time during the term, it is important that you communicate this with the classroom teacher either verbally or through the student diary. We value clear communication here at SEPS. Despite teachers having various meetings across the week, we are always accommodating to ensure any queries or concerns can be discussed.

Please ensure that your child brings their student diary to school each day. This forms a big part of their daily routine when entering the classroom. Teachers check and sign each diary every day. Not only is the school diary a vital line of communication between home and school, it is also used across the week for students to write in important events and (as the term goes on!) learning goals. From week 3, students will be taking home books to read with a parent/family member. The diary plays an important role for students and parents to track which book students have read.

Term 1 dates 2023

Start your day with a coffee from our coffee van - Brad will serve you from 8.45am.

Jan 30th First day for students

Feb 1st Canteen starts today

Feb 6th Assembly whole school

Feb 10th Hungers Busters commence

Feb 14th Welcome Parent Morning Tea 9am in stadium

Feb 15th Meet the teacher from 1:15pm- 5:45pm

March 13th Labour Day holiday

Walker Learning Approach - Investigations

We are so lucky to learn in the wonderful JLC building each day. From week 3, the JLC will transform three mornings a week when the Level 1 & 2 students are investigating. We have a plethora of resources, here at Sandy East, to support our Investigations sessions. Students take great care in using the space and resources in a calm and fair way that shows respect for themselves and respect for others. A big part of our learning this term is around Investigations routines and expectations to ensure that all students are soaking up each minute of their Investigations learning time.



Any parent who has done the parent helper training (dates coming!) and is available to come in and help on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday morning (even for half an hour!) will be welcomed into our JLC by the wonderful staff and students. There will be a parent sign-up sheet placed on your child's classroom door over the next couple of weeks. Please feel free to have a chat with your child's class teacher if you have any wonderings.

We always find that once a parent has come in and been a part of an Investigations session they are absolutely amazed! They are amazed at the amount of learning that occurs in a session, the passion and enthusiasm the children show as well as the range of skills students utilise.



Each session teachers are ensuring that links to current learning are in place for students as they investigate (literacy and numeracy in particular) however a large part of Investigations supports students in developing their *personal and social capabilities* as well as their *critical and creative thinking skills*.

This term the Learning Task for Level 1 & 2 students will be based on Investigations. During Investigations sessions teachers will continue to support, challenge, prompt and learn with your child based on their interests and passions.



Literacy – Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening



Here at SEPS we have extremely well stocked classroom libraries for all students to access. We value high quality texts that students can enjoy and learn from. Across this term teachers will be working with students to develop their literacy skills through the use of rich mentor texts. We will be looking at a range of fiction and non-fiction texts as well as unpacking key writing traits used by a range of authors. Students will have opportunities each day to read for a

sustained period of time, aloud to their teacher or peers as well as have stories read to them by others. As always, we welcome any donations of good condition pre-loved books into our Lions Bin which is located near Lauren's office.

Students will identify how good authors write by identifying key phrases, words, and expression of ideas. They will get ample opportunities to mimic the set writing piece (imitation), then transform this piece of writing (transformation) and lastly writers will create their own original piece of writing (innovation). In conjunction with this approach, lessons will be planned with specific foci in relation to the 6 Traits of writing (Ideas, Organisation, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Voice and Conventions).

Students will write a 'Cold Write' this term, which will continue to give teachers a greater understanding of students writing strengths and areas for improvement. Continual expectations around neat handwriting, ruling and dating our page as well as editing will be areas of focus as well.



Ideas



Organisation



Voice



Word Choice



Sentence Fluency



Conventions

Mathematics – Number, Measurement, Geometry, Statistics and Probability

In the JLC our math sessions are engaging, hands on and practical. Students are involved in a 'hook' to begin the lesson. This may be in the form of a quick number or fluency game. Students are then involved in the explicit tune in and learning stage of the lesson before moving onto applying the skills. Teachers work with small groups of students at different points across each math session. In Level 1 & 2 we explore:

Number and Algebra · Number and place value - explore connection between addition, subtraction multiplication and division - recognise, model, represent and order number to 1000 · Fractions and Decimals - recognise and interpret common uses of halves, quarters and eighths of shapes and collections · Money and financial mathematics - count and order small collections of Australian coins · Pattern and Algebra - describe patterns with numbers and solve problems of addition and subtraction



Measurement and Geometry · Using units of measurement - telling time, ordering months and compare and order length, area, volume, mass and capacity · Shape - recognise and draw 2D and 3D shapes/objects · Location and transformation - investigate and interpret location using key features and positions and sliding, flipping or turning

Statistics and Probability · Chance - identify practical activities and every day events that involve chance

using language such as unlikely/likely, certain/impossible · Data representation and interpretation - gather data and display using lists, tables and picture graphs and interpret them



Timetable, Parent Helpers, Other Level Specific Information

In the JLC we have 2 **communication boards**; one for each year level.

The Level 1 communication board can be found near the entry door nearest to the Level 1 end of the building. You will also find Mr McCann's, assistant principal, office is down this end of our building.

The Level 2 communication board is located near the middle space of the JLC on the wall which backs onto 2A classroom.

Over the next couple of weeks teachers will be displaying a range of information on these boards including: Investigations rosters for each class, upcoming important dates, the fortnightly Statement of Intent which shows our current learning intentions and Investigations interests, as well as other exciting facts and fun things for students and parents to check out!

We love **parent helpers** in the JLC! As mentioned in the Investigations section of this newsletter we will be putting up on classroom doors the parent sign-up sheet for volunteers during these sessions (please ensure you have a current Working with Children Check and have completed the parent helper training). You might have a certain passion or skill which you would like to share with students. If not, that's okay! Teachers are always needing extra eyes and helpers at a range of provocations in the JLC (e.g., the craft table, sensory learning, research skills in Level 2, running small clinic groups of a particular student interest). If you come in to volunteer your time in the JLC, please know that the teachers will ensure you are supported with a clear focus for your time during Investigations with us. Please note that confidentiality is a non-negotiable when working with children in the classroom. If this is breached, a member of the school Leadership Team will discuss the matter with you.

Boxes! We are forever needing clean recyclable items that students can use during Investigations to help with their creativity. If your recycling bin is getting full at home, please know that you are more than welcome to come and drop off a bag of items to your child's classroom. Teachers will disperse the popular recyclables across the JLC craft stations.

Occasionally we will put a Compass message out to parents asking for support with **school excursions**. If you are available to help (and have a current WWCC) we would be so grateful for your time and support.

Level 2 will be having a '**Fun Day**' later in the year. Date TBC. This follows in the recent tradition of ensuring students have a day filled with team building and resilience activities where they can celebrate and enjoy themselves here at school. A much-loved day in the Level 2 calendar!

	Chinese	Performing Arts	PE	Visual Arts	Gardening	Library
1A	Monday	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday	Thursday
1B	Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday		
1C	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Monday		
2A	Monday	Thursday	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Friday
2B	Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday	Friday		
2C	Wednesday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday		



Please see the below table for our Level 1 & Level 2 specialist, library and gardening sessions:

Could students please bring into their classroom their named art smock and gardening gloves ready for sessions this term. Thank you!



Restorative Practices and Play Is The Way

At SEPS we use Restorative Practices as it seeks to value and support those involved in incidents so that they feel empowered to take positive action to address the situation and move forward. 'It's not enough to just say sorry'. Children involved work through restoring the relationship, and seek to prevent further harm. As with all aspects of social life, we take any issue as a learning opportunity, which is preferable to handing out a punishment or short-term fixes.

Please make sure you visit Adam Voigt's Real School's website for information

<http://www.realschools.com.au/>

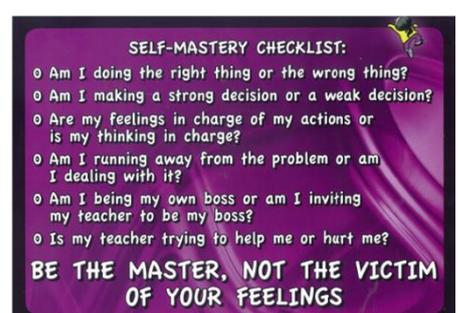
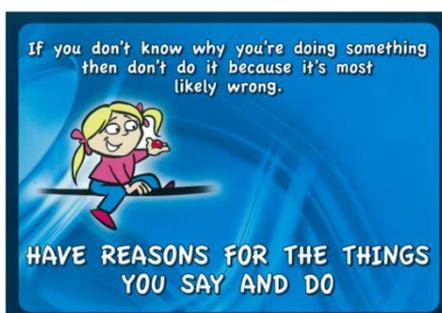
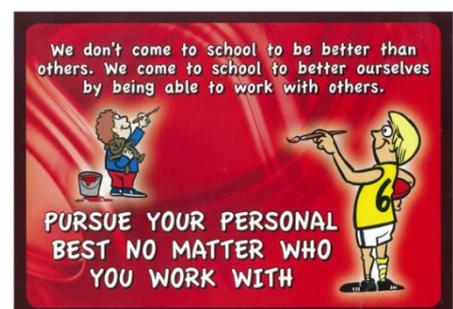
PLAY IS THE WAY is a practical methodology for teaching [social and emotional skills](#) using guided play, classroom activities and an empowering language.

It is a process that gives primary schools a way to develop, improve and entrench the [personal and social capabilities](#) of students.

The PLAY IS THE WAY Complete Program uses:

- a unique program of [physically interactive games](#)
- key concepts to guide students through life and learning
- a specific and empowering language to help attain self-mastery
- a philosophy of behaviour education and student self-regulation that fosters independent, self-motivated, empathetic, life-long learners.

We use these games regularly to develop our students into independent and democratic learners.



Assessment and Reporting

Sandringham East Primary School strives to provide a rich, inclusive, student centred learning environment to support the holistic development of all children. Research indicates that learning is developmental; children learn in different ways, at different rates and at different times. At SEPS student learning is continuously monitored against the Victorian Curriculum F-10 achievement standards, tailoring learning experiences to address the needs of the child. Teachers make informed, on-balance judgements, based on evidence gained from a range of formal and informal assessment tasks and rich learning experiences.

Feedback to students about their learning is an important aspect of maximising student achievement. It has been described as "the most powerful single moderator that enhances achievement" (Hattie, 1999). To optimise the effect of student learning feedback contact between all stakeholders (students, teachers and parents) is imperative.

To support student learning, feedback needs to be:

Constructive - highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the completed task and information for future areas of focus. **Timely** - delivered within a reasonable timeframe to benefit subsequent work. **Meaningful** - targeting individual needs and linked to specific assessment criteria.

As well as our Term 2 and Term 4 formal **Student Reports**, regular constructive feedback during the semester empowers students to monitor and direct their learning. Small teacher led groups occur across the day in each classroom. Teachers are continually making anecdotal notes and helping students set learning goals.

Student **Learning Tasks** will be disseminated to parents utilising COMPASS. Class teachers will upload a nominated student learning task each term. Additionally parents will be provided with a learning task from each of the specialist areas over the course of the year. The learning tasks will reflect a child's performance at a single point in time.

2023 Learning tasks are:

Level	Semester 1, 2023			Semester 2, 2023	
Foundation	T1	Investigations	T3	Writing	
	T2	Science	T4	Maths	
Level 1/2	T1	Investigations	T3	Writing	
	T2	Maths	T4	Science	
Level 3/4	T1	ERP	T3	Writing	
	T2	Science	T4	Maths	
Level 5/6	T1	Science	T3	Writing	
	T2	Maths	T4	ERP	
Specialists	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	
Art	Level 1&2	Foundation	Level 5&6	Level 3&4	
LOTE	Level 3&4	Level 1&2	Foundation	Level 5&6	
PA	Level 5&6	Level 3&4	Level 1&2	Foundation	
PE	Foundation	Level 5&6	Level 3&4	Level 1&2	

Specialists

LOTE Term 1 2023 Overview

Level 1

In Term 1, the focus for Level 1 students will be speaking and listening practice. Lessons will include indoor and outdoor games, songs and hands-on activities. From week to week the words and phrases students have learnt will be repeated to help them remember. In Term 1, the vocabulary focus is on greetings, zodiac animals, numbers and family members. They will learn about Chinese New Year and culture. Level 1 students will be introduced to Pinyin and start to 'Draw' Chinese characters. They will also learn some 'Traditional foods' in Mandarin.

Level 2

In Term 1, students will continually learn the Chinese language and how it differs from English. They will learn that Mandarin consists of four tones and recognise how they can change the meaning of words. Students will also learn about Chinese characters and Pinyin. The topic for Term 1 will be 'Chinese New Year and Traditional food' with a vocabulary focus on food items, objects and phrases frequently used in the classroom. Students will continue to use words they have learnt already.

Physical Education Term 1 2023 Overview

Level 1 & 2

This term at SEPS we will be setting the scene on how we work in PE. Students will be discussing the differences between physical education, sport and recess/lunch and the expectations in each setting. From a skills perspective, students will be focusing on spatial awareness and practising various fundamental movement skills including running, dodging catching and throwing. Students will learn through movement and start to apply strategies to game play. We will also be focusing on sportsmanship, participation, the body's reaction to physical activity and identifying rules and fair play.

Looking forward to a great term.

Kate Foster & Dave Richardson

Visual Art Term 1 2023 Overview

Level 1 & 2

Get ready for another fabulous year of amazing art in 2023! In term one the focus for all students will be to start right in art- revisiting our routines, mindfulness, basic techniques, and respectful interactions using strategies inspired by Adam Voigt and Play is the Way. All students will need to bring an art smock, old polo shirt or T-shirt, clearly named to protect their clothes.

Level 1 and 2 students will have a focus on expressing their own ideas and experimenting with materials as an integral part of the Victorian Curriculum in 'The Arts'. Students will focus on the art elements of colour and shape with the provocation 'Nature', exploring and experimenting in collage, 3D art and painting. Art experiences will include creating their own portfolio cover and skills such as holding a brush correctly, cutting and connecting materials will be developed.

Love Art! Julie Van Etten & Jo Hemmings.

Performing Arts Term 1 2023 Overview

Level 1 & 2

Welcome back to another exciting year of Performing Arts at SEPS. This one will be (if it's possible) even more exciting than last year...

Because this is a school film/live performance extravaganza year! We've already spent lots of time in class developing our confidence as performers and now the time has come to put that to good use. This semester we'll be focusing on developing our dance skills, which might just come in handy for the most especially exciting and entirely excellent extravaganza of 2023!