



MANLY WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Year 1 Grade Newsletter – Term 4

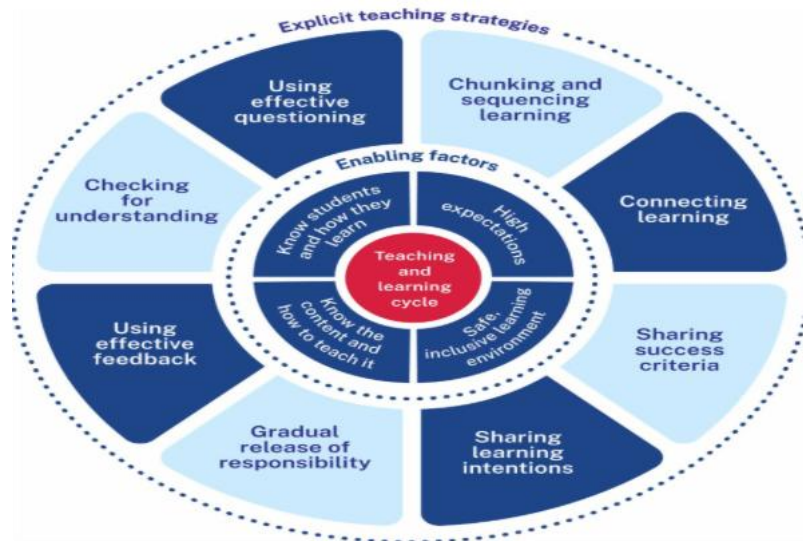
16th October 2025

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Welcome back to Term Four. We hope you have enjoyed the school holidays and are looking forward to a busy term ahead. This newsletter will provide you with an overview of what the children will be learning in class and the exciting events they have to look forward to this term. **'Diary Dates' can now be found on School Bytes on the Parent Calendar. These dates will be the most up to date throughout the term.**

Explicit Teaching at Manly West PS

Our teachers are actively engaged in the explicit teaching of concepts for students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Research clearly demonstrates that explicit teaching strategies enhance learning outcomes for all students across every classroom. At Manly West, students are consistently provided with clear Learning Intentions and Success Criteria in all English and Mathematics lessons, as well as in other subject areas. In addition to these strategies, our teachers implement a range of other effective strategies to support student learning. They also participate in ongoing professional learning focused on various elements of explicit teaching, ensuring that every student has the best possible opportunity to succeed.



Reminder: Please ask your children how they are going with K- 6 Evidence Based Maths Fluency Focus at Manly West PS.

Our teachers have recently engaged in professional learning to improve student fluency in Mathematics. We have been focused on embedding strategies that improve the ability for students to recall maths facts quickly and with little effort. At Manly West, we are implementing a Maths Fluency program where students will review and practice known maths facts multiple times a week for five minutes each session. This initiative will be implemented this term K-6 and reviewed consistently by teachers to ensure effectiveness.

Research into Cognitive Load Theory demonstrates that our working memory can hold 4-5 pieces of information at once. When teaching Mathematics, we need to move learned information from students' working memory into their long-term memory. Research shows this is best completed through effective practice and repetition.

English

This term, students will be studying a range of persuasive texts and informative texts. They will continue to learn how authors can use different techniques and literacy devices to persuade, entertain and inform their audience. Students will create short texts, developing skills in vocabulary, spelling, text and sentence structure and punctuation. They will use the Novice to Master approach to regularly self-assess their own learning.

Please see below an overview of phonics and spelling focus for this term.

Weeks	Phonics and Spelling Focus
1	Revision
2-3	ear, eer
4-5	air, are
6-7	Schwa- lazy vowel sound er as in sister or as is doctor ar is in dollar
8-10	Revision

Mathematics

Students will participate in differentiated lessons which will develop their skills across all areas of the new K-2 Mathematics Syllabus. Activities will be a variety of hands-on and written activities to achieve outcomes and extend the learning of all students. Students will participate in 'Number Talks' throughout the term where they learn to explain their thinking and develop efficient mathematical strategies.

Maths Muscles will continue to be 'exercised' 4 x per week and then sent home for homework the following week for continued revision. Please see below an overview of the mathematics topics covered this term.

Weeks	Maths Focus
1	Revision
2-3	Combining and Separating Quantities Volume and Capacity
4-5	Forming Groups 2D Shapes
6-7	Representing Whole Number Mass
8-9	Revision Length- Measuring Distance
10	Revision

Homework

A new homework grid for the term will be sent home in Week 2. Please refer to this grid for the fortnightly speaking and listening topics (News). Please note that during Weeks 2-3 there will be no News presentations, as students will be practising and performing some short drama presentations in groups, during our news time. Regular news topics will commence in Week 4.

History

During Term 4 Year 1 will continue to explore, recognise and appreciate the history of our school and our local community of Manly. Students will be learning about similarities and differences in family life and school life by comparing the present with the past.

Towards the end of Term 4, on **Tuesday 2nd December (Week 8)**, Year One students will participate in **the Year 1 incursion, 'Past School Life'** to further support their learning. Students will have the opportunity to explore old-fashioned playground games and participate in classroom activities from the past. Students will be invited to dress up in 'olden day' clothes for this event. More information to follow.

Science and Technology

Mrs Dreverman and Mrs Dowdle will teach two Science units, 'Digital Systems' and 'Plants'. First, students will investigate digital systems, learning about hardware and software and how these work together in everyday life. In the second half of the term, students will focus on plant growth in our Kitchen Garden. They will conduct a scientific investigation with bean seeds, observing changes over time and analysing their results.

Creative and Practical Arts

During Visual Arts, Year 1 will continue to explore a range of techniques and media to produce artworks representing both real and imagined situations. They will discuss qualities of artworks, such as subject matter and technique, recognising that artists create artworks for different audiences.

As part of our class program, students will participate in Drama lessons to develop their skills in Making, Performing and Appreciating drama. Students will explore Readers Theatre, related to our English texts, to take on roles to rehearse and present short performances for the class.

Dance

Year 1 students will continue to explore movement and performance skills during Dance lessons with Mrs Amber Kriletich in Term 4. This will culminate in a performance in our K-2 Dance Expo, which will take place on **Wednesday 10th December (Week 9)**

Year 1 dance lessons are on **Wednesdays**. Students are to wear **sports uniform**.

PDHPE

This term, all classes will be participating in a skill development sports program to build fundamental movement skills and encourage team sportsmanship. Students will need to **wear sports uniforms on Wednesdays for sport**.

YEAR ONE GRADE TIMETABLE TERM 4

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All classes			Grade Sport- All classes to wear sports uniform.		
1C		Science Mrs Dowdle	DANCE 9:50- 10:20		
		Library Mrs Swick			
1D	Science Mrs Dreverman		DANCE 9:20- 9:50		Library Mrs Swick
1E	Science Mrs Dreverman		DANCE 11:20- 12:10	Library Mrs Swick	
1T	Science Mrs Dreverman		DANCE 12:40-1:10	Library Mrs Swick	
1W	Science Mrs Dreverman		DANCE 12:10-12:40		Library Mrs Swick

We are looking forward to a busy and rewarding term. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher for more information.

Warm regards,

Karen Crawford, Katie Davis, Jane Egan

Kerry Windon, Maree Tsagaris and Lyndell Lutton

Year One Classroom Teachers

Julie Organ

Principal