

F/1 Newsletter

Term 1, 2024

Teacher: Mr M (F/1M Teacher), Miss Kinnear (F/1K Teacher), Krystal Baker (ES) & Hannah Grigg (ES)

We are off to a great start this year! Our Foundation students have been doing such an amazing job and we are so happy to see how well they are settling into Ceres Primary School. We are also so proud to see how the returning Grade 1 students have embraced the leadership role in helping the foundation students integrate to life at school.

We'd like to say a big thank you for how supportive all of our families have been so far this year. It really has helped the students settle in at ease and both classrooms are working very well!

Term 1 can be hectic so please feel free to reach out at any time to ask questions if you are unsure of anything. There's no such thing as a silly question so see us at the gate or send us a message on Compass.

We can't wait to see the students thrive for the rest of Term 1 and beyond! It's going to be a great year.

Hayden, Ella, Krystal & Hannah

Assemblies

Assemblies take place on a fortnightly basis on Friday afternoons, commencing at 2:30pm. It's awesome when we have lots of families from our classes attend this so please feel free to come along! We will have someone from our classes sharing what we have been up to in our classrooms every assembly. If your child is winning an award at assembly, you will be contacted by your child's teacher.



Morning Routines

Term 1 is very important to establish expectations and organisation of the classroom.

Students can come into the school grounds and the classroom between **8:35-8:45am** to put their bag away, put their drink bottle/book box on their table and put their diary out on their desk to be ready for the day before heading outside to play. The yard is supervised by a teacher at 8:35. However, if there is wet weather, the students will be allowed to play inside. **Students are not allowed to be inside the classroom without the supervision of a teacher.**

At Ceres, we focus on promoting independence and empower our students to enter the classroom on their own. For some students this will be almost automatic, some students may need a little bit more time. All students are responsible for doing their own morning jobs. We appreciate your continued support with this. As we progress through Term 1, we aim to have parents dropping their child at the classroom door or the bus shelter. If you need support on how your child can achieve this, please contact your child's teacher and we can organise a plan together.



Eli the Elephant / Calvin the Crocodile

Meet Eli the Elephant (F/1M) and Calvin the Crocodile (F/1K) These are our classroom toys who get to visit each student's house on a weekly basis! Eli and Calvin go home with students who have been showing the Super 7 values throughout the week. Both Eli and Calvin have a scrap book that students can stick photos in from their time together. The students have to take it in turns to take home these toys, so it's a great way to develop patience and resilience as they eagerly await their turn!



Houses

We are excited to have revamped our house team system at Ceres this year! Barwon and Barrabool have been replaced with 'Lok Lok Eagles' and 'Guliwan Kangaroos'. Students have been placed in their house and are loving getting into the house spirit so far! House tokens are given out each day which are selected by the students which has been wonderful for their leadership development. Stay tuned for 'House Launch Day' which is coming up soon!



Seesaw

Many families have already signed up to SeeSaw! It is highly encouraged that you sign up to SeeSaw so that you can see your child's work and photos! Please check that you are signed up to SeeSaw so that your child can share some of their learning with you! If you are having any difficulty with this, please contact your child's teacher.. Please also remember, any photos and comments are sent directly to the teachers for approval prior to them being 'posted'. We love to provide daily updates on the classroom journal and we LOVE it when parents comment on them, so please get involved and give the students some feedback!

Buddies

All students have received a buddy for this year. The Foundation students are paired with Grade 5 students and the Grade 1 students are paired with Grade 6 students. This is so the students get to spend multiple years with their buddy. Each week, the students will get the chance to eat lunch with their buddy or do an activity in or out of the classroom. There will also be various activities planned throughout the year for them to be able to spend time with each other. We will also plan to implement some projects with our buddies throughout the year. Last year, we went on an excursion together as well! Hopefully we will be able to do the same this year.



Literacy

This term in Literacy we are focusing on establishing routines and expectations for our English program. We further our work with substantive talk and utilising 'turn and talk buddies', small group and whole class conversations to foster the art of sharing ideas, politely agreeing or disagreeing with another.

English in Term 1 will focus on learning the alphabet, connecting letter names to sounds and reading (Foundation level) whilst we will continue to develop our word decoding, fluency and comprehension skills at the Grade 1 level.

In writing time, we will focus on our 'writing passions' and look to build our handwriting skills, learn elements of punctuation and build upon our sentence fluency and stamina.

Take home readers and independent reading are a major part of our Reading program. Students are encouraged to change readers as often as possible and are given time to do this throughout the day. A major emphasis is placed on reading nights and students receive a certificate and major classroom excitement from everyone when they achieve reading nights in 25 day intervals. Students will also be

able to borrow MARC books every Friday with Mrs Lang. Students will also have an EPIC account which allows access to a large amount of online books and offers students the chance to listen to texts.

Magic Words will be integrated throughout our Literacy program. Magic Words are high frequency words that will assist students with their Literacy skills. The students will be tested on their Magic Words regularly and it is encouraged that you look at these words at home too (as you will be given a copy at home to keep soon).



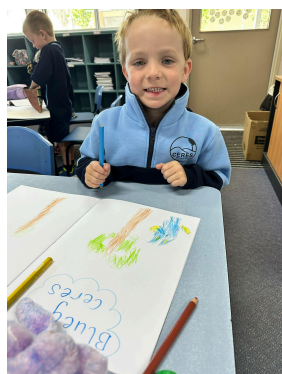
Numeracy

In Term 1, students will be exploring new and familiar warm up games, as well as investigating different mathematical concepts such as number, measurement, geometry and statistics.

In F/1, we will learn about these concepts in a variety of ways including games, hands on learning and worded problem solving skills. We will continue to have a big focus on 'Challenging Maths Tasks' this year and ensure that students are being challenged as well as developing their growth mindset around things they find difficult.

Students will be given various individualised Maths goals that will be monitored and updated by teaching staff during regular conferences and clinics.

Students can also use apps such as 'Mathletics', 'MyNumeracy' and 'Quick Maths Jnr' on their iPads at home to develop their maths skills. If you want more information about login details, please contact your child's teacher.



Inquiry

This term students will be exploring the concept of 'Under The Sea'. Students will be learning about life under the sea and marine animals, as well as the habitats and living needs that marine creatures require to survive. We will be doing an inquiry project and also have an excursion in the works!

Values

This term we will continue to follow the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Curriculum. Through this, we will explore the topic of Emotional Literacy. We will also be incorporating the 'Resilience Project' into our Wellbeing curriculum again this year. Each student will receive their own 'Resilience Project' journal to practice and promote positive mental health strategies to build resilience.

Uniform

TOP CHOICES	BOTTOM CHOICES	ADDITIONAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Checked dress• Short or long sleeve sky blue or navy blue polo top with school emblem• Two tone sky blue and navy blue windcheater• Navy Blue bomber jacket• Year 6 commemorative short sleeve top and windcheater	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy and white check short• Navy skort• Navy shorts-no emblems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White or navy socks• Plain black or white sneakers or black school shoes• Ceres Navy blue logo hat-quick release strap

Key Reminders

UNIFORM It is encouraged that all students have a spare uniform in their bag (including socks) incase of any accidents. Please also ensure that this is in a separate bag for dirty clothes to go into if necessary. Thank you to the families that have already done this!

TISSUES It would be greatly appreciated if all families could please bring along a box of tissues at the beginning of the year. This allows us to have enough tissues to last all the students throughout the year and assists us with our school budget. A huge thank you to everyone that has already done this!

SUNSCREEN & HAND SANITISER All classrooms have sunscreen and hand sanitiser in them. Students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen when going outside. Students are required to wear their school hat during Term 1 and Term 4. If students do not have their hat at school, they are required to play in an undercover area for the whole of recess and lunch. Please note, teachers will not be rubbing sunscreen on children.

Dates to Remember

14th Feb - Info night 3:40 - 4:05

16th Feb - Junior School Council Leaders announced

23rd Feb - Geelong Advertiser Foundation Photo

26th Feb - Pupil Free Day

4th - 8th March - Swimming Program

11th March - Labour Day Holiday
13th March - School Photos
15th March - Parents Open Afternoon
16th March - Bunnings BBQ & Cake Stall
18th - 25th March - NAPLAN
28th March - Last Day of Term 1 (2pm Finish)

Classroom Timetables

Mr M's and Miss Kinnear's Meeting times

I am in meetings and unavailable at the following times:

Monday	3.15pm- 4:15pm	Administration time
Tuesday	3.15pm- 4:15pm	Briefing/ Wellbeing and Curriculum Team Meetings
Wednesday	3:15pm- 3:30pm	Professional Learning Session

Organisation Reminders

- We ask that students all students arrive at school by 8:35 so that they have time to set up their desk, put their diary out, and be ready for school at 8:45
- A reminder that supervision time starts at 8.35, please do not come in passed the bus shelter until that time.
- Students will need to bring their iPad to school every day full charged.
- If picking up or dropping off your child during class time please sign them in/out at the office. A staff member will call their classroom to make their way up to the office.



Disclaimer: Staff at Ceres Primary School access their work emails between 8:35am - 4:15pm and will endeavour to respond within 48 hours. Staff are not expected to respond in this timeframe during weekends, public holidays and term breaks.