The 2017 school year is now underway and with every New Year there is much information to pass onto parents about their child’s new class. We have put this sheet together in the hope that it provides you with the necessary knowledge to be able to assist in your child’s smooth transition into their new grade. We hope it also gives you insight into the expectations we hold and a run down on what is happening during a school day.

We are all looking forward to a fulfilling and exciting year ahead and welcome parents to enjoy this with us through the partnership we endeavour to foster between home and school.

Sharyn Stewart, David North and Peter Lucas.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Homework:
As a nightly expectation we have set a minimum required time to be spent home reading and completing Mathletics.
The daily requirements are as followed:
- 15 minutes reading every night, to be recorded in your child’s diary.
- 10 minutes Mathletics every night. (please make alternative arrangements with your teacher if internet access is unavailable)
It is also a good idea to provide an environment which is free from distraction.
Each semester there will also be an assignment set.

Diaries:
This is a very important item that we insist on having at school everyday. It is a way of recording what is expected to be completed at home as well as a tool for communicating with parents about events that have happened during the day. Diaries are expected to go home each night and it is imperative that they are returned to school each morning. We ask our parents to read and sign their child’s diaries weekly.
Please feel free to use your child’s diary as a means of getting a message to us.

Absenteeism:
If your child is absent please forward a note explaining the absence on their return to school or make contact with the school office via phone or email.

CURRICULUM AREAS:

English:
Includes: reading, writing, speaking & listening and spelling.
Twice a week we have English rotations, where the 5/6’s are working in a combined environment, in smaller groups. On other days we focus on areas of writing, spelling, editing and publishing.
CAFÉ Reading: The CAFÉ Reading program will be conducted this year with a strong emphasis on students finding their “just-right” reading level books to read. This program will help expand each student’s vocabulary through challenging reading activities.

Maths:
The focuses are Number and Measurement. Problem solving is an integral part of the Maths program as it demonstrates the student’s ability to transfer knowledge gained to different mathematical situations. There is also an emphasis on automatic response of simple maths facts which is completed daily. Term 1 focus is on Place Value.

Inquiry Learning:
Each term we work on a chosen theme/topic. These sessions provide exciting experiences to learn about the world around us. This term we are studying “Natural Disasters.”

The Arts:
Visual Arts: This is a specialist subject taken by Ms Giles weekly.

LOTE: BU Wayan teaches Indonesian for 2 sessions per week.

Phys Ed: This is a specialist lesson taken by Mr Lucas for 2 sessions per week.
5/6 Sport: Each Friday all 5/6 students are involved in sport. This will either be inter school sport or 5/6 sport. Some matches for inter school sport are played away from Seafood Primary and require parental permission to attend.

LEAP (Linking Education And Play): These sessions run for approximately 4 weeks twice a year. These sessions provide opportunities to explore activities that are of interest to individuals, taken by staff and parents who have an interest and expertise in the offered activity.

Digital Technology: Students have access to a variety of different mediums for ICT at Seafood Primary School. There will be a weekly coding club held in the 5/6 area with Mr North.

Nippers Program: Sessions will be held at the Seafood beach, taken by lifesavers from Life Saving Victoria, where the students will be taught safety and best practice on the beach. This will take place in term 1 on the 1st and 2nd of March.

Camp: This year’s camp will be held at Coonawarra, first week Term 3. Further information on the 5/6 camp will follow. The approximate cost will be $360 - $380. You will be able pay in instalments through the office.

Year 6 transition forms:
This package will be handed out (approximately) at the beginning of term 2 to all our year 6’s. Please read all the relevant information, attend as many open days/night as you can before returning the ‘preference form’ to us by May.
**eSmart Cyber Safety:** Students will partake in an eSmart Cyber-Safety unit which includes strategies about keeping safe online, their digital footprint and where to seek assistance to prevent cyber-bullying.

**5/6 Forum:**
This year our 5/6 students will be organizing and running a family forum evening about Cyber Safety. This will be happening in semester 2.

**Extras:**
The students can also become involved in:
Music- keyboard, guitar. Chess club & tournaments, Active After Schools program.

**5/6S:** Sharyn Stewart will be teaching the class on Mondays through to Thursdays. Peter Lucas will be teaching 5/6S on Fridays.