Dear Parents
Welcome to Term 2. Now that the school year is well under way we are very busy. Here is an outline of what is planned for this term.

Uniform
As we have numerous extracurricular activities planned throughout this term please ensure students are always correctly wearing their uniform each day. Also please check that their names are still clearly on all uniform.

Home Reading
Please ensure students regularly participate in home reading. To support your child ask them to retell what they have read in the correct sequence and ask different comprehension questions to ensure your child understands what they have read. This is a really important part of reading and something that we will be focusing on throughout this year, especially focusing on different types of non-fiction texts.

Homework
Students will continue to receive spelling and maths homework on Monday which is expected to be completed and returned to school by Friday. Students may also receive other small activities and projects throughout the term to teach students how to prioritise their time and organise themselves.

Integrated Studies
Our first Integrated Studies unit this term is ‘Eureka Stockade’ which is well under way. As a part of this topic students have been investigating the effect of the discovery of gold in Australia and how it has impacted us. Throughout the second half of the term we will be studying the topic of ‘Solids, Liquids and Gasses’. The students will investigate what observable properties solids, liquids and gasses have and why they behave differently. As a part of this topic the students will be invited to attend an excursion to Scienceworks. As a part of this excursion students will participate in some liquid nitrogen experiments and investigate the properties of liquids, solids and gasses. I was quite shocked at the expense of the bus for this excursion and after receiving an initial quote of $31 per student to attend this excursion I was unsure as to how we would fund it. However with some help from the Lions Club (and I cannot thank them enough) they have agreed to subsidise the cost of the bus and the excursion cost will be $20 per student. There will be more information regarding this excursion in the coming weeks. I am also excited to let you all know that thank you to the Ardoch Youth Foundation we will also have the opportunity to attend the Shrine of Remembrance to support our students of ANZAC day. This excursion will incur no charge as the Ardoch Foundation will cover our transport costs in their entirety. I again cannot thank the Ardoch Foundation enough for this amazing opportunity.
**Numeracy**
Throughout numeracy lessons we will be looking at a number of different topics. This includes fractions, number patterns, tessellations & transformations, addition & subtraction, area, data, Cartesian System and decimal representations of the metric system. Following up these activities with you children at home and asking them to teach you about different aspects of maths would be beneficial and will reinforce their learning of these topics. Students are also encouraged to participate in regular automatic response of number facts such as the times tables.

**Literacy**
Throughout this term we will have a focus on reading comprehension. It has been brought to my attention that many of the students have a fantastic ability to decode texts and read them out loud with fantastic articulation and confidence although can at times have difficulties fully comprehending what they are reading. For this reason during our reading activities we will work together in small groups to discuss what we have read and develop a better understanding of the texts we are reading. Throughout this term we will continue to gain a better understanding of the Exposition text. We will look at the different grammar features of the text and further develop our competencies in writing them. We will also take time to unpack the Information Report. We will look at the many different ways Information Reports can be organised and we will look at different ways of taking notes and rephrasing them to add to our own Information Reports.

**NAPLAN – National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy**
NAPLAN testing for students in Year 5 will be conducted from the 10th of May till the 12th of May. To help students become familiar with the testing format, we have been conducting both literacy and numeracy practice tests in class. Students will complete tests on May the 10th Language Conventions and Writing, May the 11th Reading, and May the 12th Numeracy.

**Music**
During Term 2 students will continue to make music with a variety of tuned and non-tuned instruments. They will explore the musical elements of beat and rhythm through a wide range of world music. Students will be encouraged to engage with singing, music and dance activities with a focus on having fun. In singing, melody and harmony will be developed and students will sing in three and four part harmony and rounds. Students will continue to learn about the Kodaly notation system and develop the skill of reading music. Students will also begin to compose their own songs, notate their own music and perform their musical pieces for their peers.

**Physical Education**
It is going to be an action packed Term in Phys Ed! The term started with the District Field Athletics competition at Ballam Park, and will be followed by the District Track athletics and Cross Country. All students will participate in an NRL Rugby League program that will complement our physical education program and help to prepare students for the Billy Slater Rugby League Shield later in the year. They will also have the opportunity to participate in a Football Federation Soccer clinic and a Tabloid Sports session. Another exciting event will be the Seaford District AFL 9’s Gala Day that is currently being planned. Further information will be sent out when planning is finalised.

Don’t forget that it is ‘ACTIVE APRIL’. Students are encouraged to participate in 30 minutes of physical activity every day during the month of April and log it on the Active April website. Students who returned the completed Active April permission slip last term were given a special card with their unique username and code which gives them personal access to the website. Please go to [www.activeapril.vic.gov.au](http://www.activeapril.vic.gov.au) for more details. If your child wasn’t registered you can do this yourself on the website.

**Visual Arts**
In Art sessions students will begin by learning about the ANZAC spirit and create both collaborative and individual art pieces to commemorate this important event in Australia’s history. Art projects will also incorporate the integrated unit ‘Eureka’ and the influence of many people who came to our country. The students will have the opportunity to learn and explore the technique of paper mache and to create a piece that they will be proud to display at home.
Science
This term we will learn how to write Scientific reports based on their own research to support the integrated topics Solids, Liquids & Gases and Eureka! While also conducting some experiments based on these topics.

I am excited that our Soft Plastics program was a success last term as we began to bin our Soft plastics in our new big Red Bin in Shadowlands. Small red buckets have been distributed in the classrooms. I am happy to see that students are learning to make the correct choice for their rubbish, either choosing the Yellow Recycle bin, the Compost bin, Red Soft plastics bin or the blue Rubbish bin. We have saved so much recyclable rubbish that would have been put into landfill and now will be recycled into something useful and saving our beautiful planet! Please remember to bring in your unwanted plastic bags and put it in our Red Bin and encouraging recycling in your own home!

We will continue to discuss what Sustainability is and keep working in our garden, keeping it flourishing with lots of vegetables and herbs we can cook and eat! And we will be finishing a video project that has been in the making explaining what sustainability measures we do at Seaford Park Primary School.

Indonesian (LOTE)
During LOTE in Term 2 we are going to focus on My Family (Keluarga saya). This will be followed with revision of Days of the Week and Months of the Year. The students then continue with learning basic words and phrases to describe their birthdays. We will continue learning about culture and life in Indonesia.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time with your children throughout term 1. We were able to get to know each other and our expectations of one another. I am excited about all the fantastic things I have organised for this term. We have lots of extracurricular activities to look forward to, which will strengthen our relationships with one another and our knowledge of our integrated topics.

Regards,
Mrs Jessica Townsend