Welcome to Term One at Windaroo

Welcome to Term One. Students in Year One will face a range of new learning challenges as they negotiate their new curriculum. They will continue to share, consolidate and extend their knowledge and skills in response to these opportunities for growth and learning. As teachers and parents, we are in a privileged position to observe the enthusiasm and energy our early years learners have, as they move through their first years of school. We anticipate a wonderful year of academic, social and personal growth. No doubt by year’s end, we will all look back amazed by our students’ individual and collective achievements and by the many developmental milestones marked.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers for your continued enthusiasm, interest and support.

Thank you for helping make Windaroo a place for Caring and Learning together. We look forward to sharing with you an exciting learning journey throughout 2017.

**Year One teachers at Windaroo State School in 2017.**

1A – Mr Joel Allcroft (jxall7@eq.edu.au)
1C – Deme Chalkias (dchal9@eq.edu.au)
1DC – Toni Daniels/Karen Cope (tdani7@eq.edu.au/kmcop0@eq.edu.au)
1H – Nicolette Hunziker (nhunz1@eq.edu.au)
1L – Leah Castrission (ljcas0@eq.edu.au)
1S – Nerissa Suman (nsuma1@eq.edu.au)

If you wish to contact your child’s teacher, please feel free to email them any questions or organise a time to meet with them.

**Other forms of communication:**
- Weekly newsletter (emailed)
- The Skoolbag app
- P&C Facebook page

**Year 1 English**

Students in Year 1 will learn about language, literacy and literature as they engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment. They will listen to, read, view and interpret spoken, written and multimodal texts designed to entertain and inform. Literacy texts will support students as independent readers and will involve sequences of events and happenings with realistic or imaginary characters. As they engage with these texts, students will explore language features, including simple and compound sentences, vocabulary, high frequency words (SIGHT WORDS) and words that need to be decoded phonetically, punctuation, and illustrations and diagrams that support the text.

Students will also have the opportunity to create a variety of imaginative, informative and persuasive texts including recounts, procedures, and literary retellings and poetry.

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**Term 1 Special Events**

Meet the Teacher Afternoon – 7th February
Parent Teacher Interviews – 20th – 24th March
Easter Bonnet Parade – 30th March
Year 1 Maths

Year 1 learners will explore, develop and apply a variety of mathematical concepts across the content strands of Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability.

By the end of Year 1, students should recognise and communicate number sequences to & from 100. They will solve simple addition and subtraction problems and will be familiar with Australian coins.

Term 1 English Units

In Term 1, students listen to, read, view and interpret picture books, including stories from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. They identify emotive content and justify their interpretations of the stories.

By the end of the unit the students will be assessed on how well they comprehend and respond to picture books, demonstrating knowledge and understanding of text purpose and structure such as plot, character and setting.

Term 1 Maths Units

In Term 1, students will apply a variety of mathematical concepts in real life, lifelike and purely mathematical situations. They will have opportunities to develop understandings of:

- Number and place value – Recognise, model, count and order 2-digit numbers and partition small collections flexibly, represent addition and subtraction situations and use a range of strategies to recall basic addition facts.
- Time – Use days and weeks to show duration of time.
- Measurement – compare, order and measure lengths of object

Home Reading

We encourage you to focus on making Home Reading an enjoyable sharing time for your child. Along with developing reading skills and strategies, it is vital that children be given opportunity to develop confidence as readers and be allowed to enjoy the reading process at their current level of ability. Our shared aim as parents/carers and teachers is to promote a love of books and reading, which will enhance current and future learning. Time spent together exploring and experiencing the reading process cannot be underestimated in its value.

Sight Words

Your assistance at home in helping your child learn sight word lists is valued and significant. As sight words are essentially learnt only through constant reading, repetition, exposure, and rote learning, your child needs to be practising these words on a regular basis with support. Involvement from parents provides students with someone interested and special to encourage and motivate them in their efforts. Progress in reading and writing is directly affected by knowledge of sight words. A child who has a good bank of known sight words will read more fluently and with greater confidence, ease, accuracy and speed.

School Uniform

As we enter 2017, it is great to see so many of the students wearing the new school uniform. We would like to let parents know that by the end of the semester students must be wearing predominantly black shoes. This is in accordance with Windaroo’s dress code uniform policy.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted in Week 9 of Term 1 (20th – 24th March). These interviews provide the opportunity to discuss student progress with teachers. They not only inform parents but also give teachers some insight into the child from a family perspective.