

Kindergarten 2022 Parent Information



Dear parents and carers

We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning. Here is some useful information for the school year.

Communication

At Gordon West we value a close relationship between home and school. If you have any questions regarding school or if there are any important issues you feel we should know about, in relation to your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please make an appointment with your class teacher in these instances to allow time for more detailed discussions.

Contact Details

Email: gordonwest-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 9498 4644

Weekly Timetable

	KA Mrs Armstrong	KP Miss Parsons	KC Mrs Percival	KB Mrs Pentelow
Monday	Science (Mrs Edmunds)	Science (Mrs Edmunds)		
Tuesday		Computers (Miss Paptic)	Sport (Mr Lee) Library (Mrs Whiteman)	Computers (Miss Paptic) Sport (Mr Lee) Library (Mrs Whiteman)
Wednesday				
Thursday	Computers (Miss Paptic) Sport (Mr Lee) Library (Mrs Whiteman)	Sport (Mr Lee) Library (Mrs Whiteman)	Science (Mrs Shield) Computers (Miss Paptic)	Science (Mrs Shield)
Friday				

Please note this timetable may change throughout the year.

Notes

The majority of notes will be sent home Thursday, however, notes may come home throughout the week. Notes will be sent home in a clear folder. Please check your child's bag each day for any notes and **return the folder the following morning**. Copies of notes can also be found on the school website or SkoolBag app.

Student Responsibilities

Students are encouraged to develop independence and responsibility at school. We ask parents to support this by assisting students to do the following tasks independently:

- * carrying their own school bag
- * returning note folder to the tray
- * bringing library books on their library day
- * bringing magic words and place them in the tray
- * bringing home reading folder on Friday and returning to the tray
- * bringing their hat to school every day
- * bringing raincoats to wear during wet weather (no umbrellas).

Homework

Kindergarten homework will commence **Monday Week 5**. Homework will come home in a **purple folder**.

Students will consolidate concepts taught in class. Phonics and correct letter formation is the focus for Semester 1. All homework is due on **Friday**.

This year, students will receive Magic 100 sight words that will be kept in their black folders. Students are to learn and revise these words at home. The goal is for students to have automatic recognition of these words. When your child has quick, confident recall of their current list they can return the folder to school. The children will then read their words to the teacher. Upon instant recognition of all words the child will receive the next list.

Important things to note:

- Please do not send in your child's words until they have achieved mastery. This means they are able to read all words out of order within 2 – 3 seconds.
- **Magic 100 Sight Words are designed to run at an individual pace.** We ask that you focus on ensuring students are confident and have automatic recall of these words in any order before returning them. It does not need to be rushed.
- A classroom can be a very busy place although we endeavour to return Magic Words as soon as possible, they may not be checked every day.

The children will also prepare a short speaking topic to present to the class on a weekly basis. Information about this will be issued with our homework.

In addition to weekly homework, students have access to the Reading Eggs and Mathletics program. The activities provide the opportunity for students to revise familiar concepts taught in class. You will find information about their login and password attached to their homework folder. Students can revisit the activities at any time for further consolidation.

Home Reading

Home readers will be sent home in a **red folder** from **Monday Week 5**. They are changed every Friday. **Please ensure your child returns their home reading folder to the tray on Fridays.**

Reading is one of the most important life skills your child needs to develop. Please try to listen to your child read at home every day. Even though your child is developing in their skills, reading aloud is still an important way for them to practise. It helps accuracy,

fluency, comprehension and expression. Although we send home five books at once **please limit this to one book per night.**

Students also have access to the PM E-Reading Collection. This is an additional activity. Students can revisit these readers at any time for further consolidation. Please note your child will only have access to readers at their independent reading level.



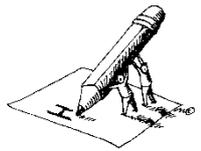
You may find that your child finds the books coming home 'easy'. This is a very positive thing. They are often a slightly lower level book than those we are working with in class, as children need to practise fast and fluent reading at home. In Kindergarten it is important students focus on using one to one correspondence by pointing to each word as they read. Children will move up through the levels as their skills progress. They will be tested on a regular basis and moved accordingly.

Writing

Students will engage in a variety of writing experiences throughout the year. They will participate in guided and independent writing lessons. Students are encouraged to have a go at hearing and recording known sounds and words. In order to support our explicit handwriting lessons, students will also be encouraged to maintain correct pencil grip and letter formation during all writing lessons.

Phonics

We implement daily phonics instruction across our Kindergarten classrooms. Students will learn their phonemes (sounds) quickly following a specific order (non-alphabetical) to enable students to build words easily. In Kindergarten we are learning to identify the letter sound, correctly form each letter and to blend known sounds together to make words.

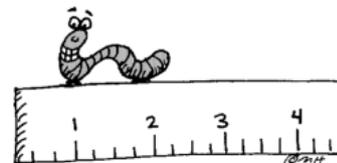


Mathematics

We are working from the NSW Mathematics K-10 Syllabus, which presents a streamlined continuum of learning from K-10.

The strands include:

1. Number and Algebra
2. Measurement and Geometry
3. Statistics and Probability



In Kindergarten, a strong emphasis is placed on the automatic recall of numbers forwards and backwards from any given number. Working mathematically is embedded across each strand with students encouraged to apply their knowledge via the use of maths journals. We are constantly assessing your child's ability to work mathematically, often using number 'games' to reinforce concepts being taught.

History and Geography

In Semester 1, we will be studying the history unit 'Personal and Family Histories'. In Semester 2, we will study a geography unit titled 'People Live in Places'. Both topics will centre around students' immediate family and physical surroundings. We may ask for photos from home to support our learning during news presentations.

Science

This term in science we will be learning living things and what they require to grow well. Students explore how plants and animals satisfy our needs by providing us with the resources for the production of food.

PDHPE (Personal Development, Health & Physical Education)

Mr Lee teaches the physical education aspect of this key learning area during our weekly sport lessons. In Personal Development and Health, we are covering units on personal safety and development as well as continuing our school wide student wellbeing program "You Can Do It!" The program is designed to foster the development of social and emotional capabilities, including the five foundations: confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along, and emotional resilience.

Creative Arts

This key learning area covers visual arts, dance, music and drama. This term the classroom teachers will be working through a visual arts and dance program which utilises different techniques. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to express themselves through painting and various craft techniques. Thank you to those parents who have sent in their child's art smock. This will remain at school for the year.

Information and Communication Technology

We are lucky to have Ms Papic engaging students in a specialist ICT program that aims to improve the students' computer skills. Students

Attendance / Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

As **school rolls** are legal documents, please make sure a letter is sent each time your child is absent. If your child is late to school or needs to leave early, parents **MUST** call at the office where staff will assist you and print your leave slip.

Monday 7 February – Friday 18 February

School commences at 9:10am, with supervision from 8:45am.

Kindergarten students are dismissed from the artificial turf at 2:40pm.

Monday 21 February onwards – normal hours resume

School commences at 9:10am, with supervision from 8:45am.

Kindergarten students are dismissed from the artificial turf at 3:00pm.

Mrs Armstrong, Miss Parsons, Mrs Percival and Mrs Pentelow.