Information for Parents

27 January 2016

Dear Parents

Welcome back to another year at Scone Grammar School. We hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable break and that the children are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead. We are also looking forward to meeting you this term and to sharing a happy productive year.

This year the classes are named after ‘Leaders Who Changed Their World’. Year 1 Blue is the Steve Irwin Classroom and Year 1 Gold is the Teddy Roosevelt Classroom.

Following are a few notes on what the Year One children need to have organised and what will be happening this term:

Books - All exercise books are to be covered with contact of your choice or brown paper and plastic/contact and labelled. This will help them remain tidy for the year. Please don’t feel the books have to be covered straight away. We will continue to send the books home until they are covered. Please make sure they come back to school each day in case they are required for a lesson. Details about the subject for each book are written inside the front cover. A homework folder (An A4 clear plastic leaf - spiral bound folder please), glue sticks and rubbers will need to be bought separately, as they are not provided in the packs. Please check regularly to see if they need replacing, as we use our glue sticks nearly every day. A big thank you to those parents who have already tackled this mammoth task.

P.E. - Our P.E. day is Monday, and therefore the children will need to wear their P.E. uniform every Monday, as well as every Tuesday for Sport.

Labels - Please check that your child’s name and their class are labelled on all of their belongings, including pencils and sharpeners. This ensures lost property is returned to the owner if found.

Paint Shirts - If you have them at home from last year, please return them promptly as we will be working on craft activities in the first few weeks. A plastic shirt is best.

News - Each child will have a News Day. We will be encouraging the children to speak on a single topic or item of news, rather than a collection of different things, and also to share new discoveries.

Library - Year One Gold and Blue have a Library class every Friday. The children will need to bring in a library bag to keep borrowed books clean.

Sunscreen Reminder - Each child is to bring in their own sunscreen. This will be kept in their tote-tray and the children will be given time before each break to apply it.
Birthday Cakes - We are more than happy to have birthday cakes brought in and shared in class time. Where possible we would prefer cup cakes, as they are easier to distribute. Please check with your child’s class teacher about any food allergies.

Special Request - We do have a student in Year One with a significant allergy to eggs, so we are asking that Year One students do not bring egg sandwiches or eggs as part of their school morning tea/lunch food. Thank you for your support with this request.

Homework - Homework should only take 10-15 minutes each night, Mon-Thurs.

Homework this term consists of Take-Home Readers, a Spelling sheet and a Maths Mentals book. We will start with Spelling homework in Week 2 then in Week 3 we will introduce readers and maths homework.

Homework is given out Mondays and the students will be asked to return it every Friday along with their Home Readers.

In Term 2, we will introduce a Journal, Sight Words and Addition Tables as well. In their Journal the students are to complete or write sentences on a set topic and illustrate. Please help your child practise their spelling words during the week in preparation for our weekly spelling test on Fridays.

*Your input communicates to your child that learning is important, that we operate as a team and that you are interested in what they are doing at school. This in turn develops a better attitude to learning, pride in what they do, helps them to be organized and as a result they become a more confident student.*

We would be very grateful if you could remind your child to ‘Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check’ as they practise their spelling. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this method, the children look carefully at the word to be learned and say the word out loud. They then cover the word with their hand or a sheet of paper and attempt to write the word. The word should then be checked and re-attempted if incorrect.

Sight words in Term 2 will need to be read every night. If they read the word correctly, place a tick in the box; if they didn’t, place a dot in the box and not a cross. At the end of the week we should see a combination of 4 ticks and dots. Or all ticks. Keep going over these throughout the year.

Correct writing posture is important. Begin the year establishing good homework standards by encouraging your child to sit at a desk or table, using correct pencil grip, using lead or coloured pencils only and to take pride in their work.

Parent Help - Year One will require some help in the classroom this year with Literacy Groups (which begin in Week 5), Home Readers and Computers.

More information will follow at the Information Night, scheduled for Thursday, 4 February 2016 (Week 2).

Home Readers - This process will begin in Week 3. A Home Reader Card will be included in the plastic folder. Please write the name of the book and make notes of the children’s nightly reading practice and initial.

In Year One Gold, Home Readers are due in on Wednesdays and Fridays and can be listened to in Period 6/7.
Year One Blue will have their readers changed and listened to on their news day.

If anyone would like to help in anyway, please fill in the tear away slip below and return this as soon as possible. Any assistance will be gratefully received.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year together.

With thanks,

Janine Summers
Year One Gold Class Teacher

Felicity Saunders
Year One Blue Class Teacher

Year One Literacy Groups  
(Please tick as appropriate)

Child’s Name: ________________________________

Parent’s Name: ________________________________

I am able to help with Literacy Groups on:

(9:40-10:25)  ☐ Tues / ☐ Thurs

(9:00 – 9:40)  ☐ Wed

I am able to listen to Home Readers for Year One:

☐ In Literacy Group Sessions

☐ Fridays Period 7