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Room 23 Welcome

Welcome to the 2017 school year and to Year Six! My name is Genevieve Blackwell and I am delighted to be teaching Year Sixes in Room 23. I am thrilled to be starting my fourth year here at O'Connor Primary School and am looking forward to an excellent year ahead.

This year holds many exciting events which will provide your child with many skills and memories to conclude their primary school career. Year Six gives all students an opportunity to demonstrate their maturity and leadership as they take part in these events.

Whole School Values and Room 23 Team Building

Room 23 will be embracing the O'Connor Primary whole school Values Program. This program endorses a selection of different values each term. Throughout the year students will take part in various activities and participate in social skill building opportunities to further develop their resilience and skills. During the first week, the class has had the opportunity to develop some rules and expectations for this year. Each student has contributed to these rules and acknowledged them as important for the class to have a safe, enjoyable and productive year.

Room 23's Weekly Class Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Homework is due	Homework is set (Thursday to Wednesday)	Assemblies 8:45 – 9:40am (Terms 2 & 3 Assemblies are Thursday afternoon)
	Sport Mrs Gallagher 9:40 – 10:35am			
Science Mrs Long 10:55-11:50am			Humanities and Social Sciences Mrs Schmidt 11:50 – 12:45am	
			Science Mrs Long 9:40 – 10:35am	
		Football Academy Mr Sims and Shane 2 nd lunch and Values		
	Library 1:25 – 2:40pm	Health Mrs Gallagher 1:55 – 2:50pm		Senior Clubs 1:50 – 2:40pm

Classroom Acknowledgement

Throughout the year, a variety of acknowledgements will be introduced to the students. These will be achieved individually, as a whole class, as well as in smaller groups. Students will be awarded acknowledgements for a variety of reasons including displaying respect, honesty, responsibility, along with other positive behaviours and positive attitudes. Students will also be rewarded upon completion of homework tasks, caring for the classroom and school environment and those around them. In addition, O'Connor Primary School 'Goldies' are awarded as a whole school as individual acknowledgement. These are given to recognise our school values and link to our 'Circle of Life' rewards program run through the office. Upon completion of good work in class, students will be rewarded by visiting the deputies. After four visits, a Principal Award will be received at the next assembly. Merit certificates will also be awarded by me each assembly. I will notify you when your child is receiving a classroom merit award.

Classroom Behaviour Management

The aim of a behaviour policy is to minimise the number of interruptions to each child's education and learning as well as providing a safe and enjoyable learning environment for your child to work in. Classroom behaviour expectations have been discussed and negotiated as a whole class. Below is the process our classroom follows:

1. **Warning** – Please stop the behaviour and students are reminded of the expected behaviour. Students are encouraged to make a good choice for themselves.
2. **Time-out** – Students are removed to an isolated area of the classroom to think about their choices and behaviours and how they have affected the others in the classroom. Students are encouraged to make good choices as they are welcomed back with the opportunity to start fresh.
3. **Detention** – Students lose a part of their recess or lunch to reflect by themselves as well as with the classroom teacher about their ongoing behaviour choices and how they are affecting them and others. Parents or caregivers will be informed at this stage.
4. **Office** – Disruptive behaviours have continued and will now be dealt with by the administration team and parents will be notified.

Serious behaviours may skip this process and result in a visit to the office to see the Principals or the Deputy Principals.

Homework

The routine for homework is extremely important to develop as your child prepares to move to high school. Homework will be set on a weekly basis and will review learning topics being taught in class. Each child is responsible of their own 'Homework Folder' which will contain their 'Home Reading Log' as well as other homework content. This will be sent home on Thursdays and students will have the week to complete set tasks. Homework folders will be due back in on Wednesdays. Student diaries will be used as much as possible this year to build the students' self-management and organisational skills. Please ensure your child has one.

Home readers, spelling study and times table practise continue to be important for your child to complete regularly. Any home reading recorded in the students' 'Home Reading Log' will be transferred into their 'CY. O'Connor Pipeline Reading Challenge Log' each week. Please support me to encourage your child to read every day to help build their reading skills and fluency. Please supply a library bag so your child can borrow a novel from our school library on Wednesdays to read at home.

Water Bottles and 'Crunch & Sip'

Students are encouraged to have a water bottle in the classroom at all times throughout the year. Bottle at school are to only have water in them. As a rule, they are responsible for refilling their water bottle at recess and lunch breaks to avoid disrupting learning time. Students also have the opportunity to participate in 'Crunch & Sip' sessions at two designated times. It is their responsibility to remember to bring their fruit or vegetable snacks into class after recess and/or lunch breaks.

'SunSmart' School

O'Connor Primary School has successfully been awarded the title of being a 'SunSmart' school. Your child needs to wear a bucket hat / broad brimmed hat, when outdoors. These are available to purchase at the school uniform shop.

Senior Assemblies

Our Senior School Assemblies, Years 3-6, are held in the undercover area every second week on Friday mornings from 8:50am for Terms 1 and 4. During Terms 2 and 3, the assemblies are held on Thursday

afternoons. **Our Year 6 Assembly performances are scheduled for Friday 24th March and Thursday Week 3 of Term 3. More information to follow. We would love to see you there!**

IT Information

Students will continue to develop and practise their IT skills throughout 2017. This year, Year 6 students are lucky enough to be able to partake in the 'Bring Your Own Device' to school program. There will be a class set of iPads available to use as well. We will keep you updated with required apps throughout the year. Thank you for providing your child with a USB memory stick and headphones. If you haven't already, please send these to school soon with your child. Having their own USB stick is a great opportunity for the students to not only practise their IT skills, but also further develop responsibility for their learning. Please discuss responsible Internet use and Internet safety with your child. This will help reinforce essential IT skills at both home and school.

Year 6 Special Events

As you are aware there are so many wonderful and exciting events scheduled for this year. It is an extremely busy year for the Year Sixes with Camp, school photos, Graduation, Dinner Dance, Water Fun Day and other various excursions and incursions. Please check the school website and Term Planners regularly to ensure you do not miss important information. There will be meetings regarding Camp, Graduation and the Dinner Dance. Thank you in advance for your help with these activities.

Mobile Phones and iPods

Please remind your child that it is their responsibility to sign in their mobile phones and other devices at the front office BEFORE the first bell at the start of each day. Please leave expensive and valuable items at home.

Absentee Notes and Lateness

If your child is away from school please notify the front office via email, a letter, phone call or in person as soon as possible. Alternatively, send a letter with your child to school. Please note that if your child is not feeling well before school it is probably best to keep them home. If your child arrives at school late, they must go via the front office first to receive a late note before coming to class.

Birthdays

Birthdays are special for all of us! If you would like to make a cake or cupcakes for us all to share in class, please let me know so we can arrange a suitable time. Please note that cake will be given out at the end of the day to be taken home by children to eat.

Please be aware of allergies and the school is a 'Nut Friendly Zone'.

Lunches

Students can order their lunch from the school canteen BEFORE the first bell for school. If you would like a lunch menu, please contact the front office. If you are dropping lunch off to your child during the day, please leave it at the front office to be collected by your child.

Medical Information and Allergies

If your child has any medical conditions or allergies, please inform us as soon as possible so we can be alert to procedures for your child.

School Notes and Newsletters

All notes and communication are available to access through the O'Connor Primary School website, the school's Facebook page or the school's Skoolbag App'. O'Connor Primary is striving towards being a paperless school. Individual notes will be sent home with your child upon request. Please register for this at the front office if necessary.

Senior Club Program

Students are invited to participate in the Senior Clubs Program on Friday afternoons each term. Each teacher in the Senior School runs an activity with a mix of Year 4 to 6 students. Senior Clubs has commenced for Term 1. Please forward your \$10.00 payment for Clubs as soon as possible. Thank you.

Parent Interviews

My door is always open. Please feel free to pop in any afternoon to discuss how your child is progressing or if you have any questions. If you would like to schedule an appointment, I am available most school days between 3:00 and 4:00pm.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. I look forward to meeting you and working in partnership with you throughout the year to help your child achieve their absolute personal best.

Kind Regards,

Genevieve Blackwell

7th February