**Principal’s Message**

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that we are already starting to come to the end of our first term at Hoa Nghiem Primary School. With only three weeks remaining, there is still so much teaching and learning going on in the classrooms that it certainly doesn’t feel like time for the school holidays!

As some of you know, we have made some adjustments to the running of the Homework Club (further details in this newsletter) to help it run more smoothly. It is always tricky to try and find a balance between study and allowing students the rest and breaks necessary to ensure that they are able to get their thoughts together more clearly. We are excited about the changes that we have made, however, and hope that this will further support our students’ learning outside of the class.

Please don’t forget that parent-teacher interviews will be coming up in our final week of term (the afternoon and evening of the 21st and 22nd of March for Mrs. Coulson, and 22nd and 23rd for myself). Mrs Coulson and I will do our best to catch you after school to book in a time, or you are welcome to drop in and make a time with us yourself. If we do not normally see you after school, we will make sure that our office staff call to arrange an appointment.

Warm Regards,

Jacqui Bosman

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**Important News**

**Homework Club**

After a full day of school, children are very tired and need a rest therefore homework club will begin at 4.00pm on **Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays** as these are the days that we have tutors available. The break between 3.30 and 4.00pm allows students to have a snack, a drink, a play and a rest ensuring that at 4.00pm they are ready to begin working again and can gain the most from the tutors available.

The timetable for Homework Club is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>3/4 students</th>
<th>F-2 students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30-4:00</td>
<td>Break/ Snack</td>
<td>Break/ Snack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-4:20</td>
<td>Homework focus</td>
<td>Homework Focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:20-4:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>4:15-4:30 Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-4:50</td>
<td>Homework focus</td>
<td>4:45-5:00 Homework Focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:50-5:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>5:00-5:15 Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00-5:20</td>
<td>Homework focus</td>
<td>5:15-5:30 Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Important Announcement**

**Changes to Homework Club!**

Homework club is now only running on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday due to availability of tutors.

However, on Mondays, and Tuesdays, if students cannot be picked up at 3:30 then they will have supervised play from 3:30-4:00 in the upstairs courtyard, and in the library from 4:00pm onwards. Students will be expected to work quietly on their homework.
News from the Classroom

F-2 News

It has been a very busy two weeks in F2C and we have been working very hard. First of all, we would like to celebrate reaching a new record of 21 minutes in our reading stamina. Reaching this milestone has allowed us to begin our formal guided reading sessions enabling targeted instruction for individual and small groups of students. During our reading time, as well as guiding reading, activities such as partner reading, read to self, listen to reading and word work provide students with increased levels of responsibility and a strong sense of achievement.

Writing has been inspired by our author of the month, Julia Donaldson. Julia’s books titled the Gruffalo, the Gruffalo’s child and Room on the Broom have provided us with a very rich language experience that has helped us to develop our ability to use good ‘describing words’. The 1/2’s have also begun writing description texts using a more formal text structure including introductions and conclusions.

In numeracy we have continued to build on our number sense by exploring, ‘larger’ and ‘smaller’ numbers, ‘more than’ and ‘less than’ scenarios as well as ordering and number position. We have learnt a few new maths games that are assisting us with our counting by ones and twos and have really enjoyed exploring and getting comfortable with using MAB blocks.

It has been wonderful to see so many children bringing items from home for show and tell. This is a great opportunity for your child to develop their language skills as well as their confidence when speaking in front of others and is a fun, non-threatening way to help the children get to know each other better.

Another very successful and productive fortnight 😊

3/4 News

In the 3/4 classroom, students are hard at work in many different areas of the curriculum. In their capacity as leaders of the school at this moment, they are involved in planning and implementing several end-of-term activities, including:

- The Open Day lunch for the school community and distinguished members of Hoa Nghiem Temple.
- An athletics carnival for students in F-2C, which will be held on the final day of Term 1.

As we enter our final few weeks, they are also finishing important assessment projects in the areas of Visual Art (where they are completing their self-portraits) and Writing (in which they are finishing the construction of a picture book based on one of their narratives). We have also been very focused on making sure that there is a sound understanding of place value and addition in the 3/4 classroom. This focus will make sure that all students have a successful start to more complex mathematical areas such as multiplication and division.

There is certainly no rest in our room!

PE Reminder

Physical education, or PE, is a very important component of a child’s education. Could we please ask that all children wear appropriate shoes such as runners or sneakers on their class’s day for PE.

PE days are:

F2C on Tuesday
3/4 on Wednesday