## Year 1 Term 1 Overview 2014
### Nick Bland PoD

### Classes for 2014
- 1CG-The Snow Bears-Catherine Griffin
- 1HS-The Very Itchy Bears- Hayley Smith
- 1RO- The Grumpy Bears- Richa Oberai

### Home Reading and Quality Literature
Students are encouraged to read home readers and quality literature on a regular basis. Home reading has started this week, week 2.

### Quality Literature
Every second Friday parents/carers are invited to come and read quality literature with us in PoD 2. Sessions will be held in weeks 2,4,6,8 & 10.

### Absences
School begins daily at 8:55am and learning begins promptly. If your child is absent, please phone the school on 6205 7241 or bring a note with the date of absence, reason for absence and your signature for our records. This note can be handed in prior to, or after, your child’s absence.

### Dates to remember – Term 1
- 14 February – First whole school assembly
- 7 March – Swimming carnival
- 19 March – Christian Education
- 4 April – Cross Country
- 8 April – Term 1 Reports go home

### Assembly & Junior Singing
Junior singing will be held in the Multi-purpose room on Thursdays 12.30-1.00pm. Assemblies are held on Friday 11.30am in the school hall.

### Library
All year 1 classes will attend library on Friday. They will be given an opportunity to choose two books to take home. Please remember to provide a water proof school library bag for your child.

### Sun Smart
We are a Sun Smart School. All students require a hat - broad brimmed, legionnaires, or bucket hat to wear daily during recess, lunch and physical education (caps are not sun smart as they do not cover the ears and neck).

### Homework
Homework this year will involve your child completing learning tasks from a rubric based on Gardiner’s Multiple Intelligences. These learning tasks will include a variety of English and mathematics tasks. Year 1 homework will begin in week 3. Students will also be learning a range of words to build vocabulary and knowledge of words. This supports reading comprehension.

### English
Across year 1 students participate in the ‘daily five’. This consists of:
1. Reading to self – morning reading tables, independent reading, differentiated guided reading groups
2. Reading to someone – differentiated guided reading groups, partner reading and reading assessments
3. Listen to reading – differentiated guided reading groups, quality literature reading and class story time
4. Work on writing – modelled, shared and independent writing and writing conferencing with the teacher
5. Word work – daily spelling of high frequency words, interest words and differentiated Word Detectives spelling groups

### Together We Learn From Each Other •
Our writing focus for this term is writing for different purposes including writing to entertain and inform, including recounts and poetry. Students have the opportunity to write daily, with a focus on achieving personal writing goals related to improving the quality of their writing. Each student participates in writing conferences with the teacher to learn how to edit, check spelling and improve writing structure.

Students participate in speaking and listening activities every day. This term teachers will lead students in preparing, writing and presenting an oral presentation to their peers learning how to speak in front of an audience.

**Mathematics**
The focus this term is developing number understanding, mental computation strategies and mathematical concepts. Some of these include place value, addition and subtraction mass, capacity, two dimensional shapes and three dimensional objects, time and location. Students will be in differentiated groupings to allow students to work at a level appropriate for their understanding. Skills and strategies are supported by hands on activities and explicit instruction.

**Integrated Inquiry**
Our Integrated Inquiry focus for this term is a History based unit. During the ‘Then and Now’ unit, students have the opportunity to explore the differences in family structures and roles today, and how these have changed or remained the same over time.

**Friday afternoon – Exploring the Arts**
Students in year 1 and year 2, will be participating in Friday Frenzy on Friday afternoons. Students will participate in a five week session in a variety of activities such as visual arts, dance, music, drama, ICT, cooking, singing and gross motor skills.

**Physical Education**
This term the students will be learning about the *Fundamental Motor Skills* of catching, kicking, throwing and developing the skills to work as team and displaying good sportsmanship. Students will be working together on Tuesday afternoons for other elements of sport such as dance and yoga.

**Friendly Schools Plus**
As part of Kids matter in 2014, K-6 will be implementing Friendly Schools Plus. This falls under the social and emotional learning of the Kids matter umbrella. Students will be taking part in a range of learning activities to develop social skills, friendship, emotions, conflict resolution and building a community of happy learners. It is recognised nationally and internationally as a successful whole-school evidence based bullying prevention program. The Friendly Schools Plus program will begin in week 5.

**Administration**

**Fruit and Water Break**
Classes will break at 10.00am each day for fruit and water for 10 minutes. Please put fruit into manageable pieces. Research has shown that eating fruit and drinking water at this time assists with concentration.

**Labelling Items**
Please label all your child’s items including drink bottles and lunch boxes to ensure that lost items can be returned to them.

If you have any questions, please contact the front office to make an appointment with your child’s classroom teacher.

We look forward to a happy and productive year of learning at Palmerston Primary School.

Richa Oberai, Hayley Smith and Catherine Griffin

Year 1 team