7th February 2012

Class Newsletter - ABC's of 1G

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to the 2012 school year. My name is Janine Goldthorpe and I am pleased to be your child's teacher this year. Parents often have a lot of questions at the beginning of the school year and I hope to answer many of these in this note. Don’t hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

A

If your child is absent, please send a note in the next day to avoid unexplained absences. Computer generated absent notes will be sent home if a note or a phone call is not received. Please let me know of any allergies your child has, including food-related.

AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon tea will be eaten in the classroom between 1:40pm and 1:50pm.

ASSEMBLIES

K-2 assemblies are held each Friday from 9:30am to 10:15am. At least two class merit awards will be presented at weekly K-2 assemblies. These awards will be for good effort, improvement or for good behaviour. Principal’s Awards will be for outstanding citizenship, excellent achievement and effort. If your child is getting an award at assembly I will inform you by letter, so check your child’s bag of a Thursday.

B

We would love to celebrate your child’s birthday with their friends. You are welcome to send in a cake when it is your child’s birthday. Cupcakes are a lot easier to share. At the moment there are 24 children in our class. Please let me know if your child has any allergies or is allergic to any food. We do have one child who cannot eat dairy foods.

C

Parent and Teacher conferences are held at the end of semester one and if needed semester two.

Communication is important. You can reach me by school phone by leaving a message with the office staff and I will return your call or notes can be sent with your child. Mornings
are difficult to meet as I have Monday and Wednesday staff meetings and I am sometimes on morning duty. After school times I can be available if you have any concerns.

**COMPUTER** We have computer lessons on Monday. Your child’s teacher is Mrs Morison.

**CAANTEEN** Our canteen is open each day. Lunch orders need to be placed in a bag and put in the canteen before 9:30am each day. Canteen lists will be sent home early in the year.

**D**

**Discipline** is simple. We work hard as a class to make the classroom a positive and safe place for all. The students and I will create a list of classroom expectations which we will discuss. If children misbehave in class, they will be given a warning. If the behaviour persists, they will be moved to another place in the classroom. If they cause further problems, they will then be sent to their Time Out class (KC). You will be informed if I have any concerns about your child’s behaviour either by letter or phone.

**Discussion time.** We have discussion time each day after lunch. This is a 10-15 minute debriefing time. Children are encouraged to discuss any problems they had during their lunch time and we discuss ways which they can solve their problems. This time encourages children to speak out rather than taking their problems home to you.

**E**

The school **email address** is rutherford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**F**

**FRUIT BREAK** Each day we have fruit break at approximately 10:20am each morning when we have a short break to eat a piece of fruit. I will be encouraging all children to eat a piece of fruit or vegetable. You can cut up fruit in a container, or a piece of fruit. I have a slinky machine for apples.

**G**

**GREAT things happen each day at school.** Discuss your child’s day and just remember “if you don’t believe what you hear I won’t believe what I hear!” As parents and teachers, we all hear some very interesting stories. If you do have a concern discuss things with me not other parents.

**H**

**HOMEWORK** - Students will have **homework** each week. Homework will be related to the class work for each week. If your child doesn’t understand any homework for Monday or Tuesday, it is probably because they haven’t done that work in class yet, so leave it until later in the week. Homework is for the benefit of your child and it allows you to be aware of what is being learnt in class. Homework will be collected each Friday to be marked. I will keep a record of completed homework and it will be noted in semester one and two.
reports. Please keep all homework in a plastic envelope to avoid ruining the homework booklet.

**HOMEREADING** - Home reading will commence soon. I encourage you to support your child with this program. Children who read appropriate texts regularly will show significant improvement. I am asking everyone to provide a plastic envelope for safe storage of books. I will keep a record in the classroom of the readers your child reads. Books can be changed twice a week.

**HELPERS** - Once the children have settled into the new routines for this class I would love some assistance in reading groups. Reading groups will be held each morning, Monday 12:15pm to 12:50pm, and Tuesday to Wednesday 9:30am to 10:20am. Please let me know if you are available and I will get a Parent Helper roster started.

**I**

**INDEPENDENCE** is a goal for students because it builds self-esteem and self-confidence. Year One children are very capable of doing many things on their own and I encourage them to do as much as they can for themselves in the classroom.

**J**

Writing takes place every day. One way we accomplish this is through writing stories in our journals. Encourage your child to write at home for a variety of purposes.

**K**

**Keep updated** by reading the school newsletter every week and checking other notes that are sent home.

**L**

**LUNCH** is eaten from 11:20am until 11:35am. We sit inside the classroom. **LIBRARY** Our librarian is Mrs Beesley and our library day is Monday. Don’t forget to bring a library bag or you will not be allowed to borrow.

**M**

I will incorporate **music** into many classroom lessons to enhance our learning. The Year one **math** curriculum provides students with mathematical experiences that help them develop number sense and a positive attitude towards mathematics that will continue throughout their school career and lives. **Math concepts** are covered through our daily calendar and class activities.

**N**

A weekly **newsletter** will be sent home on Mondays to keep you informed about what is happening in our school.
Each child has a news day. This is an important talking and listening activity and children will be encouraged to use correct posture, pronunciation and grammar.

The following is a copy of our news (show & tell) chart for Term 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shaivonne</td>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>Jacinta</td>
<td>Kaitlyn</td>
<td>Maddison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zayne</td>
<td>Dylan</td>
<td>Noah</td>
<td>Ruby</td>
<td>Laura</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latisha</td>
<td>Anderson</td>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Courtney H</td>
<td>Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dakota</td>
<td>Brock</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Jacob</td>
<td>Courtney M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgie</td>
<td>Brady</td>
<td>Reece</td>
<td>Lily</td>
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</table>

O

There will be other special days when you will be invited to share in a celebration or program with our class.

P

We have class parties throughout the year to celebrate special occasions. Watch our class newsletter for upcoming events.

Q

Questions? Please feel free to call or send a note.

R

Report cards will be sent home at the end of semester one and two.
We will be learning responsibility by having assigned jobs and procedures for our classroom environment.

S

STATIONERY
It would be appreciated if all children could be provided with the following items:
- Good quality HB pencils
- Colouring Pencils
- Textas
- Glue sticks (check regularly)
- Pencil sharpener
- Eraser
- 2 large boxes of tissues
- 3 display folders
- Plastic envelope for Homework and readers
- Targeting Handwriting Book 1 (NSW Foundation Style) approximate cost $13- McDonalds Booksellers, Maitland. Also available at BIG W.
- Oxford My Personal Dictionary- approximate cost $7- also available at McDonalds Booksellers & BIG W.
Other things useful for our classroom are containers eg. Ice cream, margarine, magazines, newspaper and egg cartons

** The biggest disruption to learning is when your child does not have the correct school supplies.

T

If your child has any changes in their transportation please let me know. Call the office if you're going to be late to avoid upset children.

U & V

Volunteers and visitors must register in the office and pick up a volunteers badge. In order to make this school year a huge success we need U!

W

I welcome parent involvement!
Our school website will keep you current on what's happening in the school. Check regularly. The school website is www.rutherford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Y

Your help...is very welcome! If you can't make it for reading groups and you would like to help come and see me.

Z

Zzzzzz - Make sure your child gets plenty of rest! We have a very big day!

Thanking you,

Janine Goldthorpe
1G Class Teacher