



Seven Hills West Public School

Respectful, Safe, Responsible Learners

Term 1, Stage 2 – Welcome Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school after the summer holiday break! A huge welcome to our Year 3 students and parents into Stage 2. We are looking forward to another exciting and busy term in Stage 2. Term 1 is a term that focuses on new routines and changes as a new school year begins. As always, we are busy setting up strong structures for our business of learning. We are keen to provide you with an insight into the content we will be covering this term, as well as fresh reminders of homework expectations, administration procedures and some important events to put in the calendar.

I would like to introduce the Stage 2 team for 2023:

Mrs Anshu Radhakrishnan 3A



My name is Anshu Radhakrishnan and this year I will be teaching Year 3 – Stage 2 class. Let me begin by providing some information about myself. I have been teaching for the past 28 years out of which 18 years has been in New South Wales schools. I began my teaching career as a High School Science and Mathematics teacher and have also fulfilled the roles as a classroom teacher, ICAS and Tell Them From Me Survey coordinator, Middle Leader and, Relieving Assistant Principal.

My teaching philosophy is to provide a stimulating and caring environment in which students can develop their skills and talent thus become productive, confident and self-disciplined members of the society. I believe that every child should be known, valued and cared for. My focus is on the holistic development of the student. I am a strong advocate of constructivism, especially inquiry-based learning, my lessons are centered around discovery, cooperative, experiential and play-based pedagogies. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding your child. I am very much looking forward to working with you to support your child's learning journey and growth in Year 3.

Miss Brooke Bedford 4A



My name is Brooke Bedford and I am very excited to be teaching Year 4 this year at Seven Hills West PS!

This will be my first full year of teaching and my second full year as part of the staff at SHWPS. I have previously been involved in Seven Hills Intensive Learning Support Program working with students of all age groups and learning needs to further their language skills and mathematical knowledge. I have also had experience in an SLSO role for many years at my local high school.

I have a passion for STEM and hope to encourage a growth mindset for all my students in order to help them to achieve their goals. I look forward to working with the staff and students at SHWPS.



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Mr Troy Gibbs

My name is Troy Gibbs and this year I will be teaching Year 3 and Year 4 together in 3/4A. This will be my seventh year in teaching primary school students. Previous to this year, I taught year 4 in 2021 and 2022 as well as teaching 3-6 students computer programming and IT skills in a dedicated teaching role.

My teaching philosophy is to ensure that all students aspire to achieve the necessary skills that they will require so that they can develop lifelong learning habits. I have a strong interest in developing English comprehension through reading and writing as well as focusing on the four key aspects of Mathematics (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Every child has different paths to learn and no matter what the challenge may be, every child should aim to achieve their own personal learning goal(s). I look forward to teaching this year at Seven Hills West Public School.

Mrs Shalini Gupta



Hello fabulous Seven Hills West students and community members! My name is Shalini Gupta. During 2023, I'm teaching ICT capabilities and 21st century focused skills during library learning. In the past three years, I have taught science and library, both of which are specialist programs at SHWPS. Beyond the classroom, I also love chess and sharing my love of reading. During my teaching career of 21 years, I have taught in both small and large schools and across all stages in Sydney and internationally. During my research degree, I focused on gifted and talented students and ways to differentiate learning activities according to students' needs. As a teacher librarian, I try to include literature in the classroom along with STEM, supporting students' learning outcomes as well as building long-term reading motivation and life-long learning habits. I encourage my students to enjoy reading and share their thoughts to create an enriching learning

environment. Looking forward to a wonderful year of learning!

Miss Marie Pipikios



My name is Marie Pipikios and I am very excited to have joined the Seven Hills West Public School community this year! As the Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction, I will be working with all staff and students to improve educational outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy across the school.

I have worked for the Department of Education for 9 years as a classroom teacher, Mathematics Leader and Assistant Principal. I am passionate about teaching and in particular, building teacher capacity to drive student growth and create engaging and supportive environments for our students to thrive. I look forward to meeting you all and building a great partnership of success.



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Ms Morgan Griffiths



My name is Morgan Griffiths and I will be teaching 5/6 this year at Seven Hills West Public School. I have worked in New South Wales Public Education for 9 years in roles such as a classroom & RFF teacher and Relieving Assistant Principal. I am a dedicated teacher who has a great love for learning, of which I try to pass on to all of my students. I approach school life with enthusiasm, and energy and enjoy seeing my students eager to learn, showing up to school each day with a smile on their face.

I am passionate about teaching through exciting and stimulating activities. I love teaching 21st century learning skills and engaging students in STEAM initiatives by using Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics to help them develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

Student wellbeing is at the forefront of everything I do and it is my privilege as an educator to build safe, supportive and nurturing learning environments where our students can thrive and achieve their learning goals. This year I have come into the role of substantive Assistant Principal 3-6 at Seven Hills West Public School. I am extremely excited to join the beautiful community and see our wonderful students grow over 2023!

Topics for Term 1

In 2023, SHWPS is implementing Transdisciplinary Curriculum throughout the school. A transdisciplinary curriculum encourages students to learn to appreciate knowledge, conceptual understandings, skills and personal attributes as a connected whole. Our school collaboratively develops a program of inquiry to reflect the unique aspects of that school's community. The program of inquiry is organised and framed by six transdisciplinary themes:

Trans Disciplinary Theme 1: WHO WE ARE	Trans Disciplinary Theme 2: WHERE WE ARE IN PLACE AND TIME	Trans Disciplinary Theme 3: HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES	Trans Disciplinary Theme 4: HOW THE WORLD WORKS	Trans Disciplinary Theme 5: HOW WE ORGANISE OURSELVES	Trans Disciplinary Theme 6: SHARING THE PLANET
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These transdisciplinary themes together provide children with authentic learning experiences that are not confined to the boundaries of traditional subjects. Although subjects play an important role in learning, learners explore real-world problems by going beyond subject boundaries. Students have opportunities to reflect on the significance of their learning to take meaningful action in their community and the wider world. Students will showcase and assess their understanding through an exhibition where the school community is invited to view and assess products created by students.

Stage 2 Transdisciplinary Program – I-We-Us – Who We Are – ‘Ourselves-Our Environment- Our world Exhibition’ -

This series of PDH, English and Geography lessons are a part of the transdisciplinary unit where students will explore the factors that may impact on their health. They will work on building respectful relationships, enhancing personal strengths and exploring personal identity to promote the health, safety and wellbeing of themselves and others. They will discuss in depth the theme of sustainability and the capacity of the environment to continue to support our lives and the lives of other living creatures into the future. In addition, they will discuss the ways in which people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, use and protect natural resources. Students will learn to compose



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viewpoints on particular topics and express their thoughts and opinions in persuasive texts and products. Students will come to understand the importance of taking care of themselves, their environment and their world and use their knowledge to research issues of real world significance impacting on their present and future lives today. The skills and knowledge developed here will directly support the students with their final Exhibition project and assessment task.

Geography - The Earth's Environment – Students will explore the climate, natural vegetation and native animals of places in Australia and Asia. They will examine the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources to the environment, animals and people and learn about the ways people value environments, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Students will identify sustainable practices and recognise that there are differing views on how sustainability can be achieved.

Physical Education - Dance - During PE this term, Stage 2 students will develop their skills, confidence and creativity as they experience various dance styles including hip hop, funk, modern pop and contemporary through the Footsteps Dance Program.

Library ICT Capabilities lessons - Stage 2: Peripheral Devices and Applying Protocol – Students will learn about 'How the world works' through 7 habits and Digital technologies. Stage 2 of the Digital Technologies strand focuses on digital systems and how they transmit data. Students will explore different types of data, have the opportunity to learn how to interpret patterns and develop skills in visual programming. Stage 2 of this strand further develops students' knowledge and understanding of computational thinking and abstraction. An authentic link to the 'Material World' strand through library reading and robotics activities An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organisations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

School Hours

Our school hours are between 8.30am to 3.00pm. Recess is between 11.00am to 11.30am. Lunch is between 1.30pm to 2.00pm.

For duty of care reasons, please note that students cannot arrive at school before 8.30am. If you need to drop your child to school earlier than this, please make a Before School booking with our onsite Wesley OOSH.

School starts promptly at 9.00am. Please ensure your child is at school by this time so we can start our learning straight away! If you do happen to arrive late, please go to the office to get a late note.

Absences

If your child has been away, please send a note to the office detailing the reason for their absence so we can update our records. If you do not send a note, the office will ask you to fill in an absence form. If you are going on holiday during term time, please inform both the teacher and the office. For absences over ten days, please send a letter to the principal requesting a leave of absence.

Sports and Homework

Students are asked to wear their sports uniform, which includes a school hat and joggers for their sports day. PE will be completed based on class timetables and Sport will be on FRIDAY.



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Homework will be weekly spelling words, Literacy activities on Studyladder and Mathematics revision on Mathletics. Students will be required to bring in a labelled A4 workbook from home. Homework will be handed out on a Monday and will be due on Friday.

Important Information






- It is important that parents/caregivers read the notes sent home thoroughly as late payments cannot be accepted from the front office.
- Parents/caregivers are encouraged to check the school's website <http://www.sevenhillw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au> and Facebook page for reminders and upcoming events.
- An appointment needs to be made if you would like to discuss any concerns with your child's class teacher. Please contact the front office to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

The Leader in Me

The Leader in Me program provides schools with a leadership model and process that supports every child's physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being, all of which are factors that can contribute to or hinder academic success.

At SHWPS, we use the 7 Habits to set personal and academic learning goals. Our school commenced the program earlier this year and we are in the beginning phases of implementation. During Term 1, we have supported our students in using the 7 Habits to promote healthy learning and habits.

An overview of our 7 Habits focus for Term 1 is outlined below:

Weeks 2 and 3	Students will focus on using <u>Habit 1 - Be Proactive</u> - to establish learning goals.	
Weeks 4 and 5	Students will focus on using <u>Habit 2 – Begin with the end in mind</u> – to establish learning goals to support class mission statements.	
Weeks 6 and 7	Students will focus on using <u>Habit 3 – Put first things first</u> - to incorporate habits into learning goals in Term 1 and link to class mission statements.	
Weeks 8 and 9	Students will focus on using <u>Habit 4 – Think Win/Win</u> – to incorporate habits into learning goals in Term 1 and link to class mission statements.	
Weeks 10 and 11	Students will focus on using <u>Habit 5 – Seek first to understand then to be understood</u> – to incorporate habits into learning goals in Term 1 and link to class mission statements.	



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Important Dates for the Diary in Term 1 2023

Please check the SHWPS newsletter, which is issued twice a term (in Weeks 5 and 10).

Footsteps Dance 3-6 Program	Every Thursday	Morning (½ hour sessions)
Meet the Teacher evening	22nd February	3.15pm-4.30pm
NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 Testing Period	15th March-27th March	TBD

POLICIES

Attached to this class newsletter are important parent permission notes to sign and return as soon as possible:

1. Duty of Care and Supervision Plan (After School Pick-Up Details)
2. Internet Policy Rationale and Contract
3. Media Permission note

School policies are in place to support staff and students in the day to day running of the school.

The following school policies can be accessed from the school website. [Home - Seven Hills West Public School \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au)

The implementation of our policies follows NSW Department of Education guidelines:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Aboriginal Education Policy● Acceptable Use of Email and Internet Policy● Allergy Policy and Permission Note● Anti-Bullying Plan● Anti-Racism and Discrimination Policy● Anti-Racism Plan● Attendance Policy● Attendance Procedures● Care and Supervision Plan● Child Protection Permission Note● Class Structure Policy● Code of Ethics and Conduct● Community Communication Guide● Community Complaint Procedures● Critical Incidences Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cyber-Bullying Guide● Discipline Level System and Flowchart● Drug Education Policy● Emergency Management Plan● Excursion Policy● Gifted and Talented Policy● Homework Policy● Internet Policy Rationale● Learning and Wellbeing Support Policy (including parent referral note)● Professional Learning Policy● Programming, Assessment and Reporting Policy● Student Leadership Policy and Procedures● Sun Protection Policy● Uniform Policy |
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Thank you for your support,

Ms S Clements

Principal

Ms M Griffiths

Assistant Principal

Mrs A Radhakrishnan, Miss B Bedford & Mr T Gibbs

Stage 2 Classroom Teachers



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STAGE TWO TERM 1 2023 - Curriculum Overview

Subject	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
Reading and Viewing	Students are grouped according to reading level								
	CARS & STARS (fortnightly focus) - finding the main idea, drawing conclusions and making inferences, identifying author's purpose, interpreting figurative language & summarizing. Literacy Groups - Word Work, Guided Reading, Writing, Grammar								
Writing	EN2-4A- Uses an increasing range of skills, strategies and knowledge to fluently read, view and comprehend a range of texts on increasingly challenging topics in different media and technologies								
	EN2-8B- identifies and compares different kinds of texts when reading and viewing and shows an understanding of purpose, audience and subject matter This unit focuses on persuasive texts aimed at young people. Through this unit of work students will learn how multimodal texts are constructed to achieve their purpose. Through shared reading, writing, speaking and listening activities, students study persuasive techniques. They plan and rehearse oral texts, including presentations, for a variety of audiences and purposes. EN2-1A communicates in a range of informal and formal contexts by adopting a range of roles in group, classroom, school and community contexts EN2-2A plans, composes and reviews a range of texts that are more demanding in terms of topic, audience and language EN2-7B- Identifies and uses language forms and features in their own writing appropriate to a range of purposes, audiences and contexts EN2-10C- Thinks imaginatively, creatively and interpretively about information, ideas and texts when responding to and composing texts EN2-11D- Responds to and composes a range of texts that express viewpoints of the world similar to and different from their own								
Spelling & Grammar	'b & bb'	'a'	'k, c, q, ck, x, ch'	'e ea'	'd' & 'dd'	'i'	'f, ff, ph'	'o' & 'oa'	'b & bb'
	nouns	adjectives	verbs	conjunctions	clauses	Simple/compo und sentences	multi-clause sentences	Time connectives	adverbs
Sp & Listening	EN2-5A- uses a range of strategies, including knowledge of letter-sound correspondences and common letter patterns, to spell familiar and some unfamiliar words EN2-9B- effective and accurate sentence structure, grammatical features, punctuation conventions and vocabulary relevant to the type of text when responding to and composing texts EN2-1A- communicates in a range of informal and formal contexts by adopting a range of roles in group, classroom, school and community contexts								
Handwriting	Downstroke letters	Anticlockwise letters	Diagonal joins	Clockwise letters	Diagonal joins to head and body letters	Exit flicks	diagonal joins from q and z	entry flicks	Horizontal joins
	EN2-3A- uses effective handwriting and publishes texts using digital technologies								
Number & Algebra	Whole Number MA2-4NA	Addition and Subtraction MA2-5NA	Multiplication and Division MA2-6NA	Fractions and Decimals MA2-7NA	Patterns & Algebra MA2-8NA	Whole Number MA2-4NA			
Measurement & Geo	2D Space MA2-15MG Angles MA2-16MG	3D Space MA2-14MG	Time MA2-13MG	Mass MA2-12MG	2D Space MA2-15MG Angles MA2-16MG				
Stats & Probability	Chance MA2-19SP								
Geography	The Great Southern Land	It's a Big Wide World Out There	China Study	China Study	Find me a home among the gum trees	The Great Australian Animal Rescue	Animal Habitats	Relying on nature to survive	Importance of nature to people
	Unit title: The Earth's Environment Assessment Outcomes: GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4								
Science and Technology	Materials Talks	Do materials have jobs?	Elasticity	Properties of materials	Revision				



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	<p>ST2-11DI-T – Describes how digital systems represent and transmit data.</p> <p>Unit Title: Materials are used for specific purposes</p> <p>ST2-7MW-T: investigates the suitability of natural and processed materials for a range of purposes</p> <p>ST2-1WS-S: questions, plans and conducts scientific investigations, collects and summarises data and communicates using scientific representations</p> <p>ST2-2DP-T: selects and uses materials, tools and equipment to develop solutions for a need or opportunity</p>							
Creative Arts Dance	<p>Students will be participating in the Footsteps Dance Program. This program allows students to explore fundamental movement skills including both locomotor and non-locomotor movements, as well as developing balance, coordination and body awareness.</p> <p>DAS3.1 Performs and interprets dances from particular contexts, using a wide range of movement skills and appropriate expressive qualities.</p> <p>DAS3.2 Explores, selects, organizes and refines movement using the elements of dance to communicate intent</p> <p>DAS3.3 Discusses and interprets the relationship between content, meaning and context in their own and others' dances.</p>							
Sport & PE	<p>PSSA & 3-6 School Sport</p> <p>PE – Unit Title: Adapting Physical Activity Assessment Outcomes; PD2-4, PD2-11</p>							
PDH	<p>Unit Title: Promoting Healthy Choices</p> <p>Assessment Outcomes; PD2-2, PD2-6, PD2-7, PD2-9</p>							
PB4L	Classroom Behaviour	Assembly & Library Behaviour	Playground Activities	Walking Around the School	Toilets	Scripture & Visiting Teachers	Warnings & Time Outs	After School Behaviour
7 Habits	<p>Be Proactive; Begin with the End in Mind; Put First Things First; Think Win Win; Seek First to Understand and then to be Understood; Synergize; Sharpen the Saw</p>							
Transdisciplinary Program	<p>Theme: How the world works</p> <p>Assessment Outcomes; GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, PD2-2, PD2-6, PD2-7, PD2-9, EN2-1A, EN2-2A</p>							