



Seven Hills West Public School

Respectful, Safe, Responsible Learners

Term 1, Support Unit – Welcome Letter

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to 2023! We are very happy to see our students settling into school life so well. All students are continuing to make a smooth transition into school routines. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting term, full of fun, learning, and making new friends. This newsletter is to inform you of school and class routines and to help you prepare your child for the term ahead. Please check the SHWPS newsletter (Schoolzine, Facebook and Seesaw) for school updates and information.

This term, your child will be taught by a team of professional, motivated and passionate teachers who are committed to providing your child with an equal opportunity to learn. The support teachers and co-educators are equipped with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviours, and skills they require to perform their tasks effectively in the classroom, school, and wider community. The Support Unit teaching team are as follows:

Mrs Monika Arora, K-2 Aqua



My name is Monika Arora and I am the Relieving Assistant Principal for the Support Unit and classroom teacher for K-2 Aqua at Seven Hills West Public School. I started my teaching career 17 years ago as a mainstream teacher, then moved to teaching in Special Education Settings. My teaching span includes working as a Classroom Teacher, Special Education Teacher and being a Middle Leader at Seven Hills West Public School.

I am keen to help and support your child in their learning journey and build their overall holistic approach. I am approachable and look forward to building positive relationships with parents to best guide the children in their social, emotional, personal and academic needs. I look forward to getting to know all the students and community at SHWPS.

Mrs Megan Moon, K-6 Rainbow



My name is Megan Moon and I have worked in the Support Unit at Seven Hills West for over ten extraordinary years and have a Master of Special Education from Sydney University. I am delighted to be working with the students in K-6 Rainbow, it is exciting to learn about my students and to discover how they learn best. I am looking forward to seeing their progress this year. My goals for my students include maintaining high expectations through differentiated learning strategies and individual modifications. My hope is to create a community of happy, lifelong learners, good citizens and students who feel happy to come to school.

I look forward to building a relationship with you and your child so we can work together to make this year a huge success for your child!

Mrs Gemma Dalton-Keep, K-6 Pink



Hi, my name is Mrs Gemma Dalton-Keep! I have been teaching for over 13 years in a variety of different roles in a range of schools and across all year groups. I recently completed my Graduate diploma in Inclusive and Special Education and love working closely with my parents to get the best outcome for our students, so I look forward to getting to know you and your child this year.



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Miss Ann Chung, 3-6 Purple



My name is Ann Chung and I am teaching 3-6 Purple this year. I am eager to embark on this journey with your child, and I know that it will be a year filled with new experiences and opportunities for growth.

I am excited to see your child shine and develop their skills and knowledge over the course of the year. Your child will have the opportunity to demonstrate their growth, and I am confident that they will make amazing progress. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year. I am here to support your child's education, and I am always happy to hear from you.

Mrs Miriam Lewis, K-6 Orange



Hi, my name is Miriam Lewis. I have twenty years' experience in teaching in various education settings. I have experience in teaching students with various needs, including Special Education.

I am excited to be working with the students from K-6 Orange and getting to know them. I will explore and understand how they learn and I will teach the curriculum to meet their individual learning needs in all subjects. I believe in creating a classroom with high expectations assists students to strive to learn and achieve their best ability, taking on challenges with a pro-active mindset. I look forward to working in partnership with the families of K-6 Orange to reach the full potential of every student in my class.

Miss Marie Pipikios, Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction



Hi, 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.

Our **Co-educators** and **RFF staff** for Support Unit are as follows:

Class	Co-educators
K-2 Aqua	Miss Greer
K-6 Pink	Mrs Jacob
3-6 Purple	Mrs Cini
3-6 Rainbow	Mrs Wilson
3-6 Orange	Mrs Ramos
Library	Teacher- Mrs Shalini Gupta
Science / STEM	Teacher- Ms McLennan



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Topics for Term 1

Transdisciplinary Program- Theme; How the world works

In Term 1 2023, we will be working on our Transdisciplinary Curriculum theme, 'How the world works'.

As part of the **geography** unit, students will be learning about a specific country through a geographical inquiry process. They will investigate the connections between Australia, Japan, China, Philippines, and Switzerland. They will seek to identify factors that influence people's perceptions of places such as culture, travel, climate, currency, produce etc, as well as discuss the nature of generalisations and stereotypes.

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 will 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 in Term 2, where the school community is invited to view products created by students.

Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) - Visual Arts

In Visual Arts, students will make artworks representing both realist and imaginative situations through the exploration of a range of techniques and media. They will identify different colours, shapes, textures and other things of interest in artworks. Through participation in various activities, they will recognise and identify some of the things depicted in artworks and will respond to these through associations.

Personal Development and Health- Healthy Choices

Students will identify practices that contribute to positive health. This includes eating habits, food selection, the advantages of customary diets of local Aboriginal People on Country and Sun Safety. Students will recognise the benefits of being physically active and how a healthy diet supports this. They will explore the contextual factors that impact their health such as activities they like, equipment that is available and who makes decisions for their family about food and activities.

Physical Education – Play with purpose & moving my body

Students will participate in structured and unstructured physical activities to engage with outdoor settings and the natural environment. They develop knowledge and understanding of sportsmanship by collaborating on group tasks while being active.

Library and STEM

This term in library, K-6 Pink, 3-6 Orange and 3-6 Purple will be focusing on Computer hardware and software: innovative change the way the world works through 7 habits and leaders in me program. During this project-based inquiry, students will explore how humans use their understanding of scientific principles and the impact of technological advances on society and environment. Students will further develop their abilities by creating and communicating with ICT where they will use ICT to prepare simple plans to find solutions or answers to questions.

This term in library, K-6 Rainbow and K-2 Aqua will be focusing on how the world works through an inquiry into staying safe online when utilising technology. Students will learn about 7 habits and leader in me and investigate differences, similarities, changes and continuities by comparing and contrasting their regular toys and robotics. They will participate in an inquiry challenge to explore how coding can be used to code various robots. Students will also draw on their ICT and critical and creative thinking skills in a variety of ways.



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Science

This term in library, K-6 Pink, 3-6 Orange and 3-6 Purple will be exploring materials and how they are used for specific purposes. Students will identify a range of natural materials available locally or through trade as well as materials used by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples for a specific cultural purpose. They will design and evaluate a product to demonstrate their understanding of the suitability of materials for a specific purpose.

This term in Science, K-6 Rainbow and K-2 Aqua will be focusing on the topic titled 'Material World'. In this topic, students will observe and describe the properties of a range of materials and explore how specific materials are used in built environments, based on their properties. They will plan, design and evaluate a product after identifying a need and considering how varying properties of materials are suitable to their particular product.

School Hours

Our school hours are between 8.30am and 3.00pm. Recess is from 11.00am to 11.30am. Lunch is from 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 your child happens to arrive late, please go to the office to get a late note.

Absences

If your child has been away, please provide a note detailing the reason for their absence so we can update our records. If we do not receive 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.

Drop off /Pick up Arrangements

We request that parents meet their child under the COLA at 3:00pm sharp. If you are going to be late to pick -up, after 3 pm, you will need to contact the office 9622 2136, prior to the bell. If you need to make alternative arrangements, contact our onsite Wesley OOSH.

***Please note that students receiving Assisted Transport will continue their normal drop-off and pick-up routines.**

If your child attends the Out of Hours School Care, please notify their classroom teacher to ensure there is no confusion. Parents and community members are asked to arrange an appointment with the front office if they wish to visit the school for any purpose.

Crunch & Sip

Every day the children will be having a short fruit/vegetable break. This food must be cut into small pieces and put in a small, labelled container. They are also able to drink water from their water bottle.

Recess and Lunch

Please put your child's lunch and morning tea into separate, labelled containers. Encourage your child to unpack his/her own bag by putting these items into the appropriate baskets. Please only pack enough food that your child can eat within a 10-minute eating break. Your help in this area is vital in developing their independence.



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Library and Sports Day

Students will be allocated time each week to attend the library. All students must have a library bag to be able to borrow books. Library borrowing days for all of our support unit students this term is: **THURSDAY**.

Students are asked to wear their sports uniform, which includes a school hat and joggers for their sports day. The sport day for Support students in Term 1 is: **FRIDAY**.

Homework

Homework this term will include spelling activities, Magic words, and links to access the websites 'Wushka' and 'Mathletics' to complete online reading and mathematics activities. Homework will begin in **Week 5**. The Homework should be **turned in on Friday** of each week.

Important Information

-It is important that parents/caregivers read the notes that are sent home thoroughly as payments for school excursions or functions need to be paid by the due date. The front office cannot accept late payments.

-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.

-If you would like to speak with your child's class teacher about any concerns you might have, please make an appointment by contacting the front office before 3pm.

Items Required for This Term

All students need the following items:

- Headphones
- Old shirt for painting
- 2 tissue boxes
- Hand soap
- Wet wipes
- Please label all belongings, including clothing and containers.

Important Dates for the Diary in Term 1

Please check the Seven Hills West Public School newsletter, which is issued twice a term (in Weeks 5 and 10).

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 on the next page:



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

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 \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://www.sevenhills.nsw.gov.au)

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

<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,

Mrs Clements
Principal

Mrs Arora
Rel Assistant Principal

Mrs Dalton-Keep, Mrs Moon, Mrs Lewis & Miss Chung
Classroom Teachers



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Support Unit Term 1 2023 – Curriculum Overview

Subject	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Reading and Viewing	ENE-REFLU-01 – reads decodable texts aloud with automaticity. ENE-RECOM-01 – comprehends independently read texts using background knowledge, word knowledge and understanding of how sentences connect.									
	Students are grouped according to reading level for Literacy Groups Word Work, Guided Reading, Writing and Fine Motor.									
Writing & Grammar	ENE-CWT-01 – plans, creates and revises texts written for different purposes, including paragraphs, using knowledge of vocabulary, text features and sentence structure.									
	Assessment	Assessment	Recount an event	Recount an event	Identify and use verbs	Identify and use verbs	Writing simple sentences	Writing simple sentences	Punctuation	Word knowledge
Shared Reading	ENE-CWT-01 – creates written texts that include at least 2 related ideas and correct simple sentences.									
	ENE-CWT-01 – know that a simple sentence makes sense by itself and is a complete thought represented by a subject and a verb (GrA3).									
Phonics	Assessment	Assessment	Our Island	Our Island	A Bag and a Bird	A Bag and a Bird	Amazing Animals	Amazing Animals	The book with no pictures	The book with no pictures
	ENE-SPELL-01 - applies phonological, orthographic and morphological generalisations and strategies to spell taught familiar and high-frequency words when creating texts.									
Spelling	EN1-SPELL-01 - applies phonological, orthographic and morphological generalisations and strategies when spelling words in a range of writing contexts.									
	Assessment	Assessment	Spell their own name/simple/unknown words	Spell their own name/simple/unknown words	Combine Phonological knowledge	Combine Phonological knowledge	Spell high frequency /unknown words	Spell high frequency / unknown words	Segment single syllable words	Use phoneme as a strategy to spell
Speaking & Listening	ENE-OLC-01 – communicates effectively by using interpersonal conventions and language with familiar peers and adults. EN1-OLC-01 – communicates effectively by using interpersonal conventions and language to extend and elaborate ideas for social and learning interactions.									
	Mathematics									
Number & Algebra	Week 1	Week 2	Weeks 3&4	Weeks 5&6	Weeks 7&8	Weeks 9&10				
	Assessment	Assessment	Representing Whole Numbers	Patterns Combining and separating quantities	Representing Whole Numbers	Representing Whole Numbers				
Space & Geometry and Stats & Probability	Assessment	Assessment	Two-Dimensional spatial structure Data	Forming Groups	Length Two-Dimensional space Three-Dimensional objects	Mass Volume				



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Subject	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
HSIE Geography	Assessments	Assessments	Australia's connection with other countries	Country's official name, currency & population	Geographical features	Capital city and familiarization with place in the world	Official language, customs & traditions	Celebrations & food	Flora & fauna	Climate & Produce
Science	Assessments	Assessments	Exploring materials	Using natural material	Materials used by Aboriginal people	Designing a project using specific materials	Use of specific cultural material	Design a product using specified material	Exploring & assessing final product	Suitability of specific cultural material
ICT ES1	Assessments	Assessments	Introduce coding through kodable app and internet safety.	Introduce coding through kodable app and internet safety.	Introduce coding through kodable app and internet safety.	Differences, similarities in regular toys and robotics	Introduce Google classroom and login. Coding on Kodable and Beebot app and building a computer device with recycling materials.	Introduce Google classroom and login. Coding on Kodable and Beebot app and building a computer device with recycling materials.	Introduce block coding on Dash/sphero and continue coding on Kodable.	Introduce block coding on Dash/sphero and continue coding on Kodable.
ICT S1	Assessments	Assessments	Introduction to Hardware and Software through reading.	Introduction to Hardware and Software through reading.	Introduction to Hardware and Software through reading.	Introduction to Hardware and Software through reading.	Introduce Google classroom and login. Coding on Kodable and Beebot app and building a computer device with recycling materials.	Introduce Google classroom and login. Coding on Kodable and Beebot app and building a computer device with recycling materials.	Introduce block coding on Dash/sphero and continue coding on Kodable.	Introduce block coding on Dash/sphero and continue coding on Kodable.
CAPA	Assessments	Assessments	Aboriginal dot painting	Country flag	Flora & fauna craft	Costumes	Popular sightseeing craft	Weaving	Origami	Painting and paper craft
PDH	Assessments	Assessments	Understanding Emotions	Identifying Emotions	Expressing Emotions Positively	Turn Taking	Playing Fairly (Win-Win)	Exploring Friendships	Stay healthy & safe	Sun Safety
PE	Assessments	Assessments	Movement skills and sequences	Locomotive movement skills	Completing an obstacle course using backwards & forward movements	Sprinting	Yoga sequence	Egg roll movement	Climbing & hanging skills	Movement games Dancing

PB4L	Classroom Behaviour	Assembly & Library Behaviour	Walking Around the School	Toilets	Scripture & Visiting Teachers	Warnings & Time Outs	After School Behaviour
7 Habits	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						
Transdisciplinary Program	<p>Theme: How the world works</p> <p>Geography- Gee-1- identifies places and develops an understanding of the importance of places to people. Gee-2- communicates geographical information and uses geographical tools.</p>						