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parent information

**Homework**Department of Education guidelines state that homework is optional. Please contact me if you do not wish for your child to complete homework. There will be no rewards for completing homework and no punishment for not completing homework.

The role of homework is to revise, review and consolidate learning already covered in the classroom. It is not intended to teach new concepts or provide extension for students.

Homework will be sent home on Monday and should be returned for marking on Friday. Homework tasks will generally include weekly spelling revision activities as well as English and Mathematics tasks.

**Home reading**Home readers will be sent home each day in a plastic folder that has been given to each student. Please tick each book off the book list once the book has been read each night. I suggest that your child reads for at least 10 minutes each day. Children will receive certificates throughout the year to acknowledge their efforts in home reading.

**Notes and Money**Any money that needs to be sent into school must go directly to the school office and should be posted into the slot in the bench at reception. Money, together with permission notes, should be placed in an envelope labelled with your child’s name, class and the name of event or program being paid for. In some circumstances, payments can be made online. Payment options will be indicated on each individual note.

Any other notes that do not involve money can be given directly to me or placed on my desk before or during school hours.

**Birthdays**On, or around the time of their birthday, each child will receive a birthday certificate or sticker. I ask that parents do not send birthday cakes into school on their child’s birthday. This is due to children with anaphylaxis reactions to certain foods.

**Crunch and Sip**Each day the children are required to bring food and water for ‘Crunch and Sip’ sessions usually held during the first two hours of the day. These sessions give the students a short fruit and drink break and allow them to refuel. Suitable foods include: fresh fruit, dried fruit, fruit yogurt, vegetables and fruit in juice.

**Food and Allergies**Two children, Ben M and Sam G, in Kindergarten are anaphylactic to peanuts. If your child has nuts or nut products in their recess or lunch please tell the teacher so we can make the necessary arrangements to avoid cross contamination of food. Please remember NEPS is a nut aware school, we educate the children but don’t ban foods containing nuts.

Each day, students have ten minutes to eat their recess and lunch under the COLA. Students are discouraged from sharing their food and canteen money with one another.

**Library**Library lessons take place every Tuesday for K1K. Children are encouraged to bring any sort of bag (cloth or plastic) to school on their Library day.

Regular borrowing of books is encouraged to complement our home reading program, to introduce the children to a variety of literature and to promote a love of books and reading.

**Classroom Supplies**Most school equipment will be provided for your children at school. Please make sure you pay your school fees and textbook fees at the office.

**Teachers**During the school week, the children will be taught by different members of the N.E.P.S staff. These may include:

Mr Ringis - STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

Mrs Zeita Mason - Library

Mrs Yasmin McNamee- Learning Assistance Support Teacher and EALD

**Parent Helpers**At different times throughout the year, parents will be invited into the classroom to assist with various activities. Each term notes will be sent home to inform parents how they can be of assistance.

All parents helping in the classroom are required to sign in at the office before entering the classroom. All parent helpers are also required to have completed a Working with Children Check which is available at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au

**Communication**Strong parent-teacher communication is something that I highly value as a teacher. I try my best to make myself available to parents both before and after school and make parents feel welcome in my classroom. Mornings however, are a busier time for me and I apologise if I am not always available. After school I aim to greet parents and am often able to discuss any queries you may have at this time.

Please arrange an appointment with me at a convenient time if you wish to discuss any aspects about your child’s schooling in greater detail. This ensures that your queries are addressed privately and with minimal interruptions.

Additionally, don’t hesitate to connect me via email if this method is more convenient.

Sarah.Kerr20@det.nsw.edu.au

Please feel free to speak to me at any time if you have any further questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Sarah Kerr