

# Unit J

## Classroom News

### March, 2017



Can you believe that we are now over half way through first term? We can't! We have had a very busy first half of Term 1 and time seems to be really flying by.

We are finishing up our persuasive English unit this week and beginning a narrative unit focused around friendship!

As you will have read from most home journals, we have started doing Smiling Minds in Unit J after first lunch most days. Students have enjoyed participating in this and have relished the opportunity to cool down and refocus for learning after playtime.

We have had such a positive response from both students and parents (and also some grandparents) with Home Journals. Thank you for taking the time to show value and importance to your child's writing by reading and responding to their letters each week. Your children are finding great pleasure in reading your response and sharing their week with you!

In Maths, we have been looking at numbers to 999 and adding two-digit numbers with mental strategies rather than written. To support your child in becoming quicker with mental addition facts, you could ask them basic number facts, building up to bigger numbers, on the way to or from school or while cooking dinner. Throughout the year, we will be developing students' ability to work with time and making change with money. These are two concepts that most students find extremely challenging! You can support your child at home to build confidence with time and money when real life opportunities arise each week.

We have begun our Science and History units for the Semester. In Science, students are investigating living and non-living. We have looked at observable features living things must have to be classified as living and are now starting to look at non-living things.

In History, we are learning all about Our Community. We have looked at ways we can participate and contribute to different community groups and we have now started identifying natural and built features of our local area and explaining how these have changed over time.

We were successful in having 100% participation in our first week of The Great Class Challenge, GO UNIT J!!! Hopefully we can keep this up each week and be the victors of the Pizza Party at the end. Thank you for supporting your students in this fun way of preparing for NAPLAN.