Kilberry Valley Primary School

Year 1

2013 Information Booklet
Dear Parents & Care-givers,

Welcome to the 2013 school year. We would like to welcome all families and children to Year 1. It is going to be an exciting year! We are looking forward to working with you and your children, helping them to reach their full potential. Your support, praise and encouragement of the children’s efforts are an integral part of helping them to become the best learners they can be.

Year 1 Class Teachers / Classroom Numbers

A4 – Mrs Lydia Gonzalez
B7 – Miss Krystal Spano
B9 – Mrs Christine Turner – Year 1 Level Leader
B10 – Miss Jessica Toates
   B11- Ms Cathy Smith
   B12 – Mrs Shipra Dudeja
Meet the teachers

Hi, my name is Mrs Gonzalez. I am happy to be back teaching at Kilberry Valley. My hobbies include: gardening, drawing, singing and listening to live music. I also love bushwalking, camping and going to the beach with my husband and two daughters. I look forward to teaching Year one this year and am sure we will have lots of fun while we learn.

Mrs Gonzalez – Room A04

Hi, my name is Krystal Spano. This is my second year in the Grade One team after teaching Prep for two years. I am very excited to watch the students grow. This is such an exciting time in their learning journey and I am thrilled to be a part of it. This is an exciting year for me personally, as I am getting married in April. I love running and regularly practise yoga. I am passionate about Investigation Time and I enjoy the students having input into our classroom environment.

Miss Spano – Room B07
Hi, my name is Christine Turner and I have loved teaching at Kilberry Valley for the past twelve years. I am married, have 3 sons and try to keep fit and healthy by going to the gym. Up until this year, I have worked with students from Years 3-6, so I am excited to work alongside Miss Toates again up on the hill in our double classroom, as the Year 1 team leader and teacher of our wonderful students in 1CT and 1JT.

Hi, my name is Jess Toates. I am thrilled to be back teaching Year One again after spending a year learning from the Year Fours. I enjoy sharing my enthusiasm with the younger students and encourage them to develop a passion for investigating and learning. I love reading, traveling around the world to experience different cultures, and am an avid Melbourne Demons supporter. I am looking forward to an exciting year of shared learning with students, parents and teachers!
Meet the teachers

Hi, I am Cathy Smith. This year I am excited to be teaching Year 1. Previously I have taught Year 4. I am a mum to two beautiful teenage sons. I believe all children have the ability to learn, if they are provided with a nurturing and engaging environment. I look forward to sharing a year with you and teaching your child.

Ms Smith – Room B11

Hi, my name is Shipra Dudeja and I am looking forward to teaching the wonderful students in Year 1. I recently got married over the holidays. I enjoy painting, and am passionate about teaching and creating an engaging and supportive environment for the students. I taught grade 4 previously with Miss Smith and am now teaching our lovely students in 1CS and 1SD together again this year.

Mrs Dudeja – Room B12
Our whole school focus values for 2013

By the time learners leave our school every one of them will have improved their ability to be ......

Wellbeing

Here at Kilberry Valley Primary School we value the emotional and social development of your child.

Currently we provide a variety of programs such as: You Can Do It, weekly ‘Welfare Matters’ in the newsletter, Kids Hope Mentoring and Kids Matter in order to promote the emotional and social development of your child.

Our whole school behaviour initiatives revolve around restorative practices. These follow a six step student behavior management program that compliments and reinforces the school’s five Golden Rules. A weekly Green Card Reward System reinforces our school's 5 Golden Rules and the Six step student behavior management program.

1. Our aim is to involve the school community with opportunities to interact with each other at organized family friendly events. We would like to invite the parents of our students each Friday afternoon to join us in the school gym for Kilberry Café.

2. Should you have any concerns regarding your child's welfare please contact the classroom teacher first, they may then refer you onto our welfare team.
Curriculum

Below is a brief summary of the standards for Level 2 in some of the areas you may not be familiar with. They play a very important role in the way in which knowledge and understanding is attained in the key subjects of Literacy, Numeracy, Science and Humanities.

Personal Learning

At Level 1 students participate in a wide range of learning experiences, which involve a variety of learning styles and approaches to learning. They begin to record their feelings and understanding about their learning, responding to prompts, which help them acknowledge their successes, noting where improvements could be made, and reflecting on the effort they put into particular tasks. Students develop strategies to use when they are feeling uncertain about their learning, such as seeking assistance from their teachers. They begin to recognise that learning from mistakes is an important attribute of being a good learner. They begin to recognise their contribution to the achievement of a positive learning environment in the classroom. Students begin to take responsibility for managing their time and begin to set short-term goals related to specific tasks, such as setting a time limit for a particular activity, and to reflect on their achievements.

Interpersonal Development

Building social relationships
With teacher support, students reflect on personal qualities, which contribute to the development and maintenance of friendships. They begin to develop and exhibit appropriate behaviours for maintaining positive social relationships.

Working in teams
Students learn to recognise that their actions have consequences for both themselves and others in social contexts. Students learn to work in teams to complete structured activities within a set timeframe (the teacher may select the teams and allocate roles and responsibilities). Students learn to stay on task and share resources fairly. In response to questions and prompts, they learn to reflect on the team’s challenges and successes and their contribution to the team’s effectiveness.

Civics and Citizenship

At Level 2 students begin to appreciate the similarities and differences between individuals and groups, including the language, cultural and religious groups which make up the Australian nation. They explore the roles, rights and responsibilities of various family and community members. They discover why groups and communities have rules, begin to question rules, which they believe are unfair, and make suggestions about improving the rules within the community. They begin to appreciate the common values important to groups and individuals; for example, fairness, tolerance, understanding and respect. They explore the purpose and benefits of school, community and national events. Students investigate the ways individuals; families, groups and communities can work to improve their environment.

Information and Communications Technology

At Level 1 students use ICT to acquire new knowledge and skills in all areas of the curriculum and to create and present information in meaningful ways. They learn to organise and classify information and ideas, and present them in a manner that is meaningful to them. To improve the presentation of text and images, students begin to apply simple techniques, such as bolding, centring and changing case. They explore a range of different information products and identify intended audiences. Students develop an understanding of the importance of checking the accuracy of facts that are going to be processed; this being necessary for producing accurate output. Working in a networked environment, students develop the practice of using a file-naming system that is both meaningful to the students, and avoids confusion over who owns particular files.
**Thinking Processes**

Students explore the community and environment around them, and increasingly consider contexts and information, which lie beyond their immediate experience. Questions and wondering are encouraged, recorded and shared, and become the basis for further learning. Students develop their skills in making accurate observations about people and events, and they begin to use a variety of means to record their observations. They develop their own explanations for the observations they make and learn to question the accuracy of other people’s explanations. Students practise ordering and sequencing their ideas. When presented with simple problems, students work with peers to develop a range of creative solutions and test their effectiveness against given criteria. Prompted by questions, they begin to reflect on their thinking processes.

**Communicating with teachers**

Each of the Year One teachers are more than happy to take time to discuss your child’s progress. We ask that between 9:00am—3.30pm, our time is devoted to the students’ learning. You are welcome to make appointments to see your child’s teacher before or after school. You can do this by phoning the school, or seeing your child’s teacher before 9:00am to make an appointment. We thank you for your understanding and we look forward to a fantastic year with the Year One students!

**Show and Tell**

Each week, your child will have the opportunity to share an item from home with their class. This item may be an item of interest or they may wish to discuss a personal event. Some suggestions are photographs, games, drawings, toys and books. Please help your child by discussing what to say at school. We are happy to mind special items; very precious objects are best left at home. Your child’s class has a show and tell timetable indicating which day each child has their turn.

**Reading at Home**

Each day your child will bring home a different book in his/her Take Home Bag. Please make sure your child reads his/her book to you or another adult each night. Please sign your child’s Student Diary each day they read. These books need to be returned to school each day. However, students are able to re-borrow the book for another night if they need to. Students need to return their book in order to borrow a new book. Teachers will keep a record of which book each child takes home every night. Any lost or damaged books will need to be paid for by parents.
Premiers’ Reading Challenge

Each year Kilberry Valley Primary School students are invited to participate in the Premiers’ Reading Challenge and this year we are extending this invitation to younger siblings of our students. The Challenge will commence **early in March** and will finish in **September** (dates will be provided in future newsletters).

To complete the Challenge:

**Years 3 to 6** need to read **fifteen** books by the closing date - ten must be from the Premiers Reading List and 5 own choice.

**Prep to Year 2** need to experience **thirty** books. Twenty must be from the Premier’s Reading List and ten own choice. These books will be read to the children in class but if you wish to read more you are most welcome to.

Your child’s classroom teacher will provide you with a password so that you can log books read onto your child’s record. The younger siblings will follow the same rules as the children in Years Prep – 2. Your child’s classroom teacher has a full list of books on the Challenge and there is a list on display in the library. You may also access the Book Lists and find out more about the Challenge on the Premiers’ Reading Challenge website: [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc). You are welcome to borrow books at our school library before and after school.

For the past three years 100% of our students completed the Challenge. It would be great to do the same this year and to include our younger brothers and sisters. So good luck everyone.
Absences/Late Arrivals

Students are encouraged to be at school every day. If your child is absent from school, please contact the school on the day of absence and provide a signed note upon their return. If arriving at school after 9am, students are required to collect a late pass from the office before going to class. The education department has guidelines for conditions when students must be excluded.

For more information please visit:

It’s cool to be at school, it’s not okay to be away!

Sunsmart

Kilberry Valley Primary School is a Sunsmart school and students are required to wear a navy blue broad-rimmed style hat at all times when outside during terms 1, 2 and 4. This includes recess, lunch, physical education classes and whole school assemblies. Without a hat, students will be unable to access the canteen and indoor areas during recess and lunch.

Lost Items

Please assist classroom teachers by having your child’s clothes clearly labeled with their name. As tags on jumpers often tear off, write their name around the collar. If an item is lost in the playground, it may be handed into lost property, located in the old gym foyer. Parents can check here before and after school, and students can check at recess or lunch. During the last week of each school term any unclaimed and un-named items will be sold for $2 an item.
This program has been carefully planned and set up by the classroom teacher to cater for the students’ interests and needs. Activities are hands on and related to real life experiences, providing rich opportunities for numeracy, literacy and creative skill development. This program runs three times a week.

We encourage student input and provide opportunities for their interests to be included at one or more of the areas. Some focus areas we have in our classrooms are; writing area, maths area, dramatic play area, construction area and reading area. It is wonderful to see the students working together in teams to complete activities or create masterpieces!
Dates to put in your diaries

2013 – Term Dates

Term 1: Wednesday 30th January to Thursday 28th March
Term 2: Monday 15th April to Friday 28th June
Term 3: Monday 15th July to Friday 20th September
Term 4: Monday 7th October to Friday 20th December

January
February
March

IDP meeting- Student, Teacher and Parent Conference
Labour Day (public holiday, no school)

April
25

ANZAC Day (public holiday, no school)

May
1
19-25

Whole School Curriculum Day
Education Week

June
10

Queen’s Birthday (public holiday, no school)

July

August
17-13

Book Week – Read Across the Universe

September
2-5

Whole School Musical

October

November
5

Melbourne Cup Day (public holiday, no school)

December
20

End of school year

For further information, newsletters, notices and updates.
Please visit the school’s web site:
www.kilberryps.vic.edu.au