Dear Parents,

This term we welcomed Daniel to our school. He facilitates the weekly music program across the school. Opportunities for our students to sing favourite songs and accompany a range of music using percussion instruments have been very enjoyable. We look forward to continuing this music program during term 3 and 4.

Welcome also to Emma Mason, who is relieving for Renae Saad during her maternity leave. We extend our best wishes to Renae.

Two parent workshops were conducted during the term. The ADHC facilitated workshop, Understanding the National Disability Insurance Scheme, was well attended by parents and all agreed that the information provided was valuable in supporting them to better understand how the scheme will operate when it is rolled out across the state.

The Communication in Action workshop was conducted by Olivia Green, speech therapist. She outlined the programs and strategies used across the school to support the development of student communication skills. We look forward to continuing these workshops to assist parents to develop resources to use at home. The next workshop will be on Friday 24 July. Further details will be sent home next term.

Teachers have completed reports for the end of this term. Student reports cover key learning areas and report against individual student learning needs. Teachers engage in a process called differentiation of curriculum to ensure students have access to curriculum that targets their individual needs. Reports also include details of progress on goals that were developed at the Personalised Learning and Support Planning meetings at the start of the year. We hope you enjoy reading about your child’s progress over the last semester of learning.

I extend my thanks to the wonderful teachers and support staff at Chalmers Road School. There is never an evening that a staff member is not working back often to 5 or 6 in the evening. They respond positively to what is asked of them. They are incredibly resilient and are always focused on what matters most for our students.

Kind Regards
Carmel Seeto
Principal

Information Distribution List
If you would like the school to send you information via email, please email the school at chalmersrd-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au and mark subject heading as Email Distribution List.

Upcoming Events

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<td>Friday 24 July</td>
<td>Communication in action parent workshop</td>
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Focus on Mathematics
The aim of mathematics is for students to be confident, creative users of skills and knowledge which they can use in their personal lives in a functional and meaningful way.
During term 2 classes have focused on a broad range of skills and topics in mathematics, strengthened through daily practice, functional application and technologies.

Green Class

Term 2 has been very productive for Green Class. We completed a unit of work on the text ‘The Gigantic Turnip’ with students accessing both a printed copy of the text and an interactive one on the iPad. We participated in maths groups every Monday with the students from all the junior classes, with a focus on number. In the classroom we focused on 2D shape and measurement. A favourite, and messy, activity was where the students searched for laminated shapes in rainbow rice and sensory snow. We also attempted to grow grass from seeds and measure their growth over the term. Unfortunately it seemed no-one in Green Class has a green thumb because they did not grow very well. It was still a lot of fun, with the students taking turns to water the seedlings. In Week 8 we hosted an ‘Open Classroom’ and welcomed parents into the classroom to observe a maths lesson. We look forward to hosting more Open Classrooms later in the year. Linda and I wish everyone a happy and safe school holidays and we’ll see you next term!
Sophie and Linda

Yellow Class

Every Monday morning Yellow Class students actively participate in lessons and activities using numbers with their peers in the Junior School. Each student moves to their maths group where they will spend time with peers outside of their class. Each of the groups participate in a range of activities including identifying numbers 1 to 30 through touching, matching, writing and using interactive technology such as the iPad and the interactive whiteboard.
Yellow Class students have been growing grass this term! Using rulers and measuring tape students were able to see how much the grass grew over 10 weeks. Mario said that the grass was long and Katrina wanted to cut the grass so that they would all be the same length. Students continue to use terms such as big, small, taller and shorter to informally measure items and objects across the school day.
Tara and Bharti

Red Class

In Class Red we have been working on our number skills every day in a variety of ways. Each morning in circle time we count the number of boys and girls in class and we sing or sign with counting songs to practise listening to the numbers in order, while counting up to five and ten. Using the interactive whiteboard, we access programs that enable the students to count pictures of objects and identify numbers up to five or ten. We look at books that describe number and give us the opportunity to practise our counting. At our desks we can then sit
and use real objects to match or count out to a given number. We also use fine motor tasks, such as threading cotton reels onto a string, counting as we go, as number practice. In other activities such as sport, we continue to reinforce our number skills, for example, counting out the skittles we knock down in bowling, or counting to ten jumps when using the trampoline. With consistent and repeated practice we aim to raise the students’ awareness, recognition and understanding of numeracy. Well done Red Class students!

Ross Skinner, Mary Raimondi and Julie O’Dea

This term in Blue Class we spent lots of time looking at numbers and patterns. We had fun counting coloured bears and counters. Miss Lily and Mrs Sarah also helped us to match the numbers. They helped us when the work got harder and harder. In Blue Class we also shared our room with our friends in Yellow and Green classes during maths groups. Miss Lily and Mrs Sarah helped us do addition and subtraction with flash cards and big numbers.

Numbers is a focus in Purple Class in order for our students to develop recognition. Each student in Purple Class has developed the skills to match numbers 1 – 10 with the help from their teacher and SLSO, they are now starting to independently match. Purple Class are also learning to write numbers by tracing in order to write the number correctly. Some students are now able to independently write numbers and complete fill out the missing number worksheets.

With the knowledge obtained from numbers and shapes, Purple Class have been able to use a variety of objects to count and match with the correct number. By using concrete objects and the Interactive Whiteboard activities such as Priory Shapes, Bugz, Choose It, Study Ladder and Smart Notebook, students in Purple Class are consistently engaged with a variety of Maths activities with the guidance of their teacher and SLSO.

Shapes are also another focus in Purple Class. Students have been able to complete matching activities on the Interactive Whiteboard and these skills are easily transferable to individualised desk work. Colours are also used to not only get students
Pink Class students have been focusing on identifying, matching and recognising Australian currency, developing number recognition and simple addition problems. Daily sessions involve a whole group starter activity, followed by students working in ability groupings which rotate between table activities using concrete objects, and Interactive whiteboard programs such as Choose it, Studyladder and Top marks. Pink class are also learning to form numbers correctly. Some students are now able to independently write numbers and complete missing number worksheets.

The class has been focusing on making groups of up to 10, matching numerals to groups of objects, and indicating bigger/smaller groups. Daily practice on basic numeration, such as addition, subtraction and simple multiplication and division are taught explicitly during maths sessions and integrated across all KLASs such as cooking and community access. Number is taught through a variety of hands on, concrete experiences in order to give them a solid understanding of number concepts. Students are exposed to and beginning to use the language of mathematics including more than, less than, bigger and smaller.

During community access to Strathfield Plaza, Pink Class students engage in money exchange skills. Students have made great progress in identifying the amount required to purchase cooking items and hot chips.

This term Banksia class students have been working on their units in Maths related to Whole Number and Money. Students participate in a variety of activities ranging from small groups working as a team on the Interactive White Board with number and money games and activities; individual desk work utilising hands on material; worksheets and iPad applications. All concepts learnt within the classroom and practice shopping program have been generalised to our Community Access outings where students practise selecting items, the money exchange interaction, budgeting and selecting appropriate money to pay and waiting for change.
Kangaroo Paw Class

Kangaroo Paw Class has had an exciting and engaging term. Our maths focus this semester has been whole number, including recognition and ordering of numbers 1-20, along with simple addition, through the use of worksheets, concrete objects and interactive whiteboard activities. Kangaroo Paw has also been studying geometric shapes including the square, triangle, circle, pentagon and hexagon. Students have been identifying and matching the shapes and counting the number of sides of a shape, as a method of recognition. In addition, money skills have been targeted in class programs, matching and identifying different notes and coins. Kangaroo Paw students have begun Community Access excursions this term, applying their money skills to real world applications and enjoying choosing and purchasing their own food. This social experience is important to the students. They have developed skills and experiences in areas such as; crossing roads, travelling, socially accepted behaviours, playing in park areas and using toileting facilities in new places.

Wattle Class

In Wattle class the students have been looking at the different kinds of money and learning to match, select and recognise $1, $2, $5, $10, $20, and $50. To assist Wattle Class students they have accessed the Interactive White Board to complete different activities such as matching money and finding the correct amount. Wattle class also have different Money Workbooks in which they can match coins, find the right amounts and practise drawing the shapes of coins and notes.

To help Wattle students learn to recognise the different kinds of money we have played with a matching money dominoes activity and money dice. Wattle students also had a lot of fun in the garden in a treasure hunt finding different amounts of money hidden in the trees and bushes.