Welcome
Welcome to Grade 1/2. We extend a warm welcome to everyone. This year we have five Grade 1/2 classes. Our five teachers are:

Room C14 Julie Billing
Room C15 Carol Willoughby
Room C19 Donna Matthews
Room C20 Yvonne Ching
Room C18 Luisa Coppola

Our team leader is Donna Matthews. We are your first point of call to discuss any cares or concerns. Come and see us with any little problems before they become big problems. We look forward to working with you through-

You Can Do It!
You Can Do It! Education’s main purpose is optimise the social, emotional, and academic outcomes of all young people.

Its unique contribution is in identifying the social and emotional capabilities that all young people need to acquire in order to be successful in school, experience wellbeing, and have positive relationships including making contributions to others and the community (good citizenship). During Term 1 students will be encouraged to develop friendships through the use of appropriate tone of voice and body language. They will participate in whole class skill building tasks which focus on resilience.

Better Buddies
We are all excited about the introduction of the Better Buddies framework at Kismet. The aim of the program is to create a friendly and caring school community that supports students as they move through the school.

We will be holding regular Better Buddies activities throughout the year. Our first key event will be our ‘Better Buddies Welcome’ to be held on Friday 15th of February. If you would like further information about Better Buddies please visit www.betterbuddies.org.au.

Parent Helpers
As a team we greatly appreciate the support of parent helpers in our classrooms. There are many ways you can assist such as changing books, listening to children read, typing stories, helping run a small literacy or numeracy group and compiling resources.

We require all classroom helpers to participate in our Parent Helpers induction sessions which will run during Term One on Wednesday 20th of February at 9.00am and 7.00pm.

**Please note parents who participated in 2012 induction programs do not need to attend again this year.**

Personal Development
Our School Values
Learning: Getting better at what we do and how we think.
Honesty: Being truthful.
Cooperation: Working with others for the good of everyone.
Responsibility: Making good decisions and setting a good example.
Caring: Looking after yourself and being considerate of others.

English
Speaking & Listening
Teaching will focus on developing students’ ability to express and respond in persuasive and meaningful ways, using complete sentences.

Learning experiences include:
- Circle time
- Rhymes
- Retelling information
- Questioning to clarify meaning
- Listening to and responding to stories
- Listening to others and responding appropriately

Reading
Whole class and instructional ability group sessions will, through modelled, shared and independent reading focus on:
- Fluency/expression
- Comprehension
- Prediction
- Retelling
- Building vocabulary

Writing
Whole class and instructional ability group sessions will focus on:
- Writing complete sentences
- Correct use of capital letters, full stops and question marks
- Planning for writing

Writing experiences will include:
- Recounts of experiences, narratives and persuasive text

Spelling
At this level we aim to have students use correct spelling of high-frequency words and words with regular spelling patterns (day, stay). Teaching & learning experiences include:
- Thrass keywords & speech sounds
- Words from independent writing
- Words from class topics
- Word endings: ed, s and silent e
- Look Say Cover Write Check

Mathematics
During whole class and instructional ability group sessions students will develop their skills through:
- Counting by 1’s, 2’s, 4’s, 5’s and 10’s starting from any number
- Develop number fluency during each maths lesson
- Addition facts using doubles and near doubles
- Add whole numbers
- Reading, writing and ordering numbers
- Name, describe and classify 2 and 3D shapes
- Time on analogue clocks using o’clock and half past
- Construct and interpret pictographs and bar graphs
Thinking Skills
To promote ‘thinking’ students will gain experience in applying Six Hats Thinking in Circle Time discussions, class activities, co-operative group work and brainstorming sessions. Y Charts, Mind Maps and Venn Diagrams will also be used.

Inquiry Learning
Through Investigations
During Years 1&2 we will build on the investigations skills introduced in Prep through an approach that includes a cooperative learning. While stimulating curiosity this approach develops skills of leadership, communication and teamwork.

Our Inquiry topic for this term is Australiana. Students will be identifying a range of groups they belong to; the roles, rights, rules and responsibilities of family and community members. They will also begin to recognise the globe as a model representation of Earth and locate Australia and other places with which they have links. The key inquiry questions include:

- Why do we belong to different groups and how do they help us to be responsible members?
- What symbols, colours and icons are used in the community to identify different groups, events and locations?
- Why are special celebrations/events/holidays important to different groups in the community?
- How can we make links to other groups in the community?

Parents as Educators
Parents are the first and most important educators of their children. They provide the foundations on which teachers build.

Ways you can support us at home:
- Monitor home reading and comprehension activities
- Encourage independent thinking
- Ensure your child reads regularly to an adult
- Enjoy shared reading with your child
- Assist with Home Learning tasks and set up a quiet place to do this.
- Encourage positive speaking and listening
- Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences.
- Talk to your child about his or her learning in a positive manner
- Encourage your child to organise their belongings for school each day

Homework
Reading is the focus this term.

- Monday - new reading book
- Tuesday - reread book and complete appropriate questions from comprehension card
- Wednesday - repeated reading book
- Thursday - new reading book
- Friday - as per Tuesday

Home School Communication
Red bags are sent home daily. They need to be checked for notices, students’ work and home reading books (once this begins) and sent back to school each day.

If you need to communicate with your class teacher please notes into the red bag as they are checked daily.

We are happy to discuss any issues that may arise. Please arrange an appointment after school on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

- Talk to your child about his or her learning in a positive manner
- Encourage your child to organise their belongings for school each day

Timetables:
Room C14  1/2B
2:15pm Monday Library
11:30am Tuesday Music
12:30pm Tuesday PE
12:30pm Wednesday Sport
11:30am Friday Art

Room C15  1/2W
11:30am Tuesday Art
12:30pm Tuesday Music
12:30pm Wednesday Sport
11:30am Friday Library
12:30pm Friday PE

Room C20  1/2C
11:30am Tuesday PE
12:30pm Tuesday Art
12:30pm Wednesday Sport
11:30am Friday Music
12:30pm Friday Library

Room C19  1/2M
12:30pm Tuesday Library
12:30pm Wednesday Sport
9:00am Thursday Art
10:00am Thursday Music
11:30am Friday PE

Room C18  1/2L
11:30am Tuesday Library
12:30pm Wednesday Sport
9:00am Thursday Music
10:00am Thursday PE
12:30pm Friday Art

Dates to Remember
5th February: Community Welcome P-2
15th February: Better Buddies Welcome
26th/27th February: Parent Teacher Conferences
20th February: Parent Helpers Induction Program
14th March: P/2 Athletics
18th March: School Photo Day
22nd March: Australiana Fete 3:30–8:00pm
28th March: End of Term 1