

# Mrs Simpson's Sizzling Spotlight

## Teacher Planning Days & the Australian Curriculum

This week's Sizzling Spotlight is all about our Teacher Planning Days and the **Australian Curriculum**. Each term in every classroom our students engage in a variety of curriculum learning areas including **English, Maths, Science, HASS (History and Social Sciences)** and specialist subjects including **Health and Physical Education, Music, Visual Arts, Technologies** and for years 5 & 6, **LOTE Auslan**. For each



of these subjects, our teachers base their teaching and assessment on the Australian Curriculum. For more information on the Australian Curriculum, parents can visit the Australian Curriculum website at [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/parent-information/](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/parent-information/).

In order to ensure each of our students are engaged in a variety of explicit instruction (I Do, We Do, You Do), hands-on and inquiry-based learning as well as direct instruction

lessons (Maths and Literacy Consolidations), our teachers are released for a full day each term to collaborate together to plan for the next term's units of work. During this day teachers work together with their Head of Department Curriculum to discuss, research and investigate interesting ways of teaching to ensure our learners have every success across all subjects.

This investment by Mareeba SS ensures our teachers have the time to differentiate for our students needs with 100% of teachers agreeing they have a clear understanding of the curriculum expectations after our recent Term 2 planning days.

At the start of each term, our Heads of Department Curriculum send home our Curriculum at Home flyers, informing families of the units of work for each year level. An example is below. Be sure to look out for the Term 3 flyers after the holidays!

After planning days teachers have described themselves as:

**CONFIDENT**  
**CURIOUS**  
**PREPARED**  
**INSPIRED**  
**READY**  
**SUCCESSFUL**  
**EXCITED**

**Mareeba State School**  
 I respect learning, safety, me and you.

**Curriculum at Home - TERM 2 - Year 1**

**English**  
 Task: In Term 2, students write an information report about an Australian animal and orally present this to their classmates.  
 At home ideas: Read, read, read – read to your child each night. Listen to your child read their home reading book. Assist with homework each night. Read books about Australian animals and discuss.  
 Assessment: week 7 – written information report, week 8 – oral presentations

**Mathematics**  
 Task: In this unit students will study: patterns, counting sequences (10s), representing and partitioning two-digit numbers, location and position, addition and subtraction, doubles facts, 2D shapes and 3D objects, time – hour, half, Australian coins.  
 At home ideas: Bundle objects (crayons, toothpicks, pasta, etc) into groups of 20 and count them in 20s. Add objects together, take objects away from each other to model addition and subtraction. Find shapes in the environment. Let children use money to play for items.  
 Assessment: Week 7: 'Seven Objects', Week 8: 'Show & Tell 3D Objects', Week 9: 'Addition'

**Science**  
 Task: Students will be studying a unit on 'Living Things'. They will make links between the external features of living things and the environments in which they live.  
 At home ideas: Have fun identifying living things in the home environment. Discuss how certain features are particular to the creature or plant and why.  
 Assessment: Weeks 7 & 8 'Describing a Habitat'

**HASS**  
 Task: In this unit, Year 1s will study a unit called 'My Changing Life'.  
 At home ideas: Discuss family members with your child, celebrate important family events and talk about important events that have happened in your child's life.  
 Assessment: Completed by week 8

**The Arts**  
 Task: In Drama students devise, perform and respond to a process drama called 'The Robot Story'.  
 In Visual Arts students continue to explore the representation of emotions in animal portraiture through experimentation with a range of materials and processes.  
 Assessment: Completed by week 8

**HPE**  
 Task: Health – students continue to study the unit 'A Little Independence'.  
 Physical Education – students will be practising running, jumping and throwing skills required for the MSS Athletics Carnival.  
 Assessment: Completed by week 8

**Technology**  
 Task: Students will continue to explore and work with algorithms to write a sequence of instructions to navigate virtual robots (Bee-Bots).  
 At home ideas: Play games where students have to follow directions. Eg. turn to the left, walk forwards 2 steps, etc.  
 Assessment: Completed by week 8

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 "Every day in Every classroom, Every child is learning and achieving"

