



# YEAR ONE 2021 INFORMATION

## OUR AIM

- To reinforce the Knox school values and encourage the boys to embody them in their daily lives
- To apply a growth mindset to all that they do and to embrace all challenges.
- To immerse technology into the learning and teaching process to show innovation, developing curiosity and creativity.

## OUR TEAM

Mr Liam Flanagan	<a href="mailto:flanaganl@knox.nsw.edu.au">flanaganl@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>	Director of Early Learning
Miss Nadine Smith - Team Leader	<a href="mailto:smithna@knox.nsw.edu.au">smithna@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>	1S Classroom Teacher
Mrs Alicia Baldry	<a href="mailto:baldrya@knox.nsw.edu.au">baldrya@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>	1A Classroom Teacher
Mrs Mary-Mae Burton	<a href="mailto:burtonm@knox.nsw.edu.au">burtonm@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>	1B Classroom Teacher
Mr Hayden Gregory	<a href="mailto:gregoryh@knox.nsw.edu.au">gregoryh@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>	1G Classroom Teacher
Mrs Nerida Greville	<a href="mailto:grevillen@knox.nsw.edu.au">grevillen@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>	Learning Enhancement

## YEAR ONE LEARNING JOURNEY

Year One is a where you will see such growth in your son's independence and learning. It is one of the most exciting years of primary schooling and you will get to witness moments of growth, curiosity and a love and joy of learning. We are very excited to be a part of this journey and cannot wait to work with our parents in supporting your son throughout Year One.

### WHAT DOES YOUR SON NEED FOR YEAR ONE?

- **Blue Bucket Hat** - stays at school
- **Art Smock** - stays at school
- **Spare undies and socks** - stays in front pocket of bag
- **Fruit Break container** – each day the boys will have a fruit break. Please place a small fruit or vegetable snack in a **small, separate** container to their lunchbox.
- **Water bottle** - no glass. Please make sure your child can fill up their bottle independently.

- **Lunchbox** - Please make sure your child can open his lunchbox independently. We are encouraging Nude Food (no wrappings).
- **Varsity Cap** - to be worn to and from school each day, except sport days.
- **Blazer** – to be worn to and from school each day, except sports days.
- **Plastic Reading Folder** - To be supplied and brought in with home readers. Home readers will be changed on Mondays and Thursdays.

**Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.**

## KEY LEARNING AREAS

A brief overview of the content to be covered in English, Mathematics and Knoxigations (History, Geography and Science and Technology) will be provided at the beginning of each new Knoxigations unit in the Knox Magpie and on the Year One page of the Knox Portal. In addition to this, the weekly Magpie article will also contain useful sources of information. This is now our main source of parent communication.

### MATHEMATICS

Students in Year One, through their study of Number, Operations and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability, will ask questions and use known facts, objects, diagrams and technology to explore mathematical problems and develop mathematical fluency. They will link mathematical ideas and use appropriate language and diagrams to explore and explain a variety of strategies.

We promote a personalised learning approach in the instruction of Mathematics. The grouping of students will therefore be fluid and based on the point of need for each student and what they are ready to learn next. It is common for there to be much movement across the Maths classes throughout the year. This starting point is established using a range of data, including the MAP Growth Assessment Tool. Within these groupings, students will have the opportunity to learn in an environment that best suits their needs and strengths. If at anytime you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to contact me on [smithna@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:smithna@knox.nsw.edu.au)

**Matific:** Username and login details will be provided soon. We will be using this tool at home and at school.

**MAP Growth Assessment Tool:** Testing will occur in week six of each term (week eight in Term 1).

### ENGLISH

The core focus of the English syllabus is making meaning through language. In Year One, students will develop their proficiency in communicating through speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing. At Knox Prep, our English is closely linked within our Knoxigation units.

### **Speaking and Listening**

Students will communicate with a wide range of audiences on familiar and introduced topics to achieve a variety of purposes. They interact effectively, adopting new communication skills and select vocabulary to enhance meaning.

### **Writing and Representing**

Students create imaginative, informative and persuasive texts on familiar topics for known readers by planning, proofreading and editing their own writing. They write using basic grammatical features and conventions of punctuation, showing an awareness of different purposes, audiences and subject matter.

### **Reading and Viewing**

Students read and view imaginative, informative and persuasive texts. They use an increasing variety of skills and strategies, including knowledge of text structure, context, grammar, punctuation, word usage and phonics, to make connections between texts and between their own experiences and information in texts. In Year One, students reading skills will be supported by Macquarie University's InitialLit program. In addition to this program, the boys participate in daily modelled, guided and independent reading lessons. Comprehension an integral part of reading development and to support this students will be explicitly taught and explored using a variety of strategies about, within and beyond the text.

**Home Reading-** Information regarding the reading at home and school program was sent home last week. It is important that this information is read carefully and shared with all caregivers who may be reading with your son. Please keep in mind, reading at home will be at an independent level for your son so they are able to enjoy the reading experience at home. Home readers are to be returned to school on a Monday and Thursday to be changed.

**Reading Eggs:** Username and login details will be provided soon. We will be using this tool at home and at school to support individual development.

**2021 Premier's Reading Challenge** - All Year One boys will be participating in and completing the PRC this year. This is an amazing opportunity for students to widen their reading experience whilst working towards achieving a reading goal. More information regarding the PRC will be sent home soon. If you have any questions regarding this please contact Mrs Emma Wood or your son's classroom teacher.

### **KNOXIGATIONS**

Knoxigations integrates all the elements of the NSW Curriculum. Students will engage in Kath Murdoch's Inquiry Process to discover information about the world around them. Throughout the year each student will explore five domains: **Stories of the World and its People, Interconnected Systems, Sustainable Solutions, Tinkering Towards Tomorrow and Global Changemakers.**

### **Stories of the World and its People**

Students travel through time to uncover the stories of people, past and present - personal histories; journeys undertaken and their impact; rich histories and traditions of cultures and civilisations; connecting the past to the present; inquiring into the interconnectedness of the people of the world; examining multiple expressions of creativity and applying these to new contexts.

**Year One Big Idea:** Celebrations Connect Communities

**Focus of Inquiry:** Family celebrations are shaped by cultural traditions within communities.

**Concepts:** Celebration, community, connection.

### **Interconnected Systems**

Students recognise the power they possess to lead change in the world by exploring future outcomes of their actions; investigating authentic scenarios where small changes at a local level create big impacts at a global level; acting with empathy and appreciating diversity and tolerance; creatively predicting the future by studying patterns of the past.

**Year One Big Idea:** I Can Protect My World

**Focus of Inquiry:** An investigation into the Earth's natural resources and ways we can work together to protect them; understanding the role of the sun and the moon in the water cycle and tides; investigating how Aboriginal peoples cared for the earth's resources; planning for how we can take action at home and at school

**Concepts:** Change, actions, attitude.

### **Sustainable Solutions**

Students investigate their role in a sustainable future – a study of the complex issues we face, with a creative focus on solutions and an awareness of our rights and responsibilities as people of the earth.

**Year One Big Idea:** Materials Are For Making

**Focus of Inquiry:** An investigation into natural materials and ways they are used to make materials that we use on a daily basis; understanding that we have a responsibility to use materials responsibly.

**Concept:** responsibility.

### **Interconnected Systems**

Students investigate the systems of the world – the interconnection of man-made and biological systems; organisational systems that enable societies to operate effectively; classification systems; systems of the living world; systems at home and on a global scale. They innovate creatively to devise solutions for these problems on a local, national and global scale.

**Year One Big Idea:** Foods From Farms and Factories

**Focus of Inquiry:** Transportation systems; food production; where our food comes from; processes our food goes through to get from farms to our tables.

**Concepts:** Products, processes.

### **Tinkering Towards Tomorrow**

Students acquire knowledge and use this to construct new paradigms for innovative approaches to problems in our world. Using an interdisciplinary STEAM approach, students follow an iterative design process, using both digital and technical skills.

**Year One Big Idea:** Energy Powers Our World

**Focus of Inquiry:** An investigation into the forms of energy and how they are used in our daily lives; sound energy.

**Concepts:** Forces, energy, sound.

## **CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING**

In Year One, we look forward celebrating your sons learning with you in a variety of ways. Please check the school Knox Magpie for further details.

## **HOME LEARNING**

Home learning is based on a fortnightly 'grid' system. It will be handed out on a Monday and is due in on the Thursday the following week. The theory behind this grid system is based around Dr Ian Lillico's philosophy. Dr Lillico believes that homework must be meaningful. He also stresses that many families in the modern age lead very hectic and busy lives, and that we need to acknowledge the broad range of activities students do out of school which promote healthy lifestyles and family relationships eg. karate lessons, reading to a parent.

The purpose of Home Learning Grid is to:

- instil a positive approach and attitude to Home Learning.
- encourage 'real life' application of Home Learning through the involvement of family and every day events.
- ensure that students are provided with consistent Home Learning.
- assist student learning and the establishment of good Home Learning patterns from early primary school.
- provide opportunities for students to develop organisational and time management skills, self-discipline, personal responsibility for learning as well as skills in using resources accessible outside of school.
- increase parent awareness and opportunities for participation in their son's education.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in Wellbeing Activities as part of their Home Learning. A Wellbeing Grid will be pasted into the front of your son's Home Learning book and boys may choose which of these activities they would like to complete weekly. Activities can be completed more than once, the choice is personal as tasks are designed to allow the boys to engage in mindfulness and well being activities that best suit them.

## SPECIALIST AND SUPPORT STAFF FOR YEAR ONE

PDHealth	Ms. Bonnie McDonald	<a href="mailto:Mcdonaldb@knox.nsw.edu.au">Mcdonaldb@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>
PE practical	Mr Greg Scott	<a href="mailto:scottg@knox.nsw.edu.au">scottg@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>
Music	Ms Ali Irwin	<a href="mailto:irwina@knox.nsw.edu.au">irwina@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>
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Wisdom, Life, Faith	Mrs Cate Mitiku	<a href="mailto:mitikuc@knox.nsw.edu.au">mitikuc@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>
Japanese	Mr Caleb Bova	<a href="mailto:bovac@knox.nsw.edu.au">bovac@knox.nsw.edu.au</a>

We are more than happy to arrange a meeting with you at any point during the year. As a team, we welcome communication between parents and our school.

Many thanks,

Miss Nadine Smith and the Year One Team.