Welcome to term 2! This term is shaping up to be a busy one and Crimson B students are enthusiastically working towards their learning goals. We have PLPs this term, quite a few sporting events to participate in and the show is just around the corner – plenty of things to look forward to! Our door is always open, so if I haven’t met any parents yet or if you would just like to pop in and have a look at what your student is learning, please pop in at your own convenience and say hi.

The following provides a brief overview of Term 2 and outlines some general routines and classroom structure.

**MATHEMATICS:** The study units this term have a strong emphasis on number and real life problems involving algebraic patterns and equations. Crimson B will be studying and engaging in lessons focussed on solving problems with whole number indices and using formulas to multiply, divide, add and subtract basic and complex problems. There is also a strong focus on multiplication table recall and Crimson B will be taking part in timed quick fact exercises on a daily basis – the aim is to beat our personal best level of recall and time!

**ENGLISH:** How do literary texts represent human experience?

This term Crimson B will be listening to and viewing a wide range of literary texts that create representations of Aboriginal Peoples’ and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ place, history, identity and culture. So far in class, Year 8 have been analysing textual, language, audio and visual features of selected texts and have been chosen to present a written analysis of the ‘Curry All Sorts – Kurithila Pride’ to showcase our students and their interpretation of representation of local culture at the 2017 Cloncurry Show.

**SCIENCE:** Students will be delving into the world of rocks and minerals this term. Some guiding questions we will research include: What are the types of rocks found around our area? What are these rocks made of and how are they formed? What do we use rocks for? How has the demand for modern technology impacted on how minerals and metals are obtained and used, and the environment? We have already started experimenting by making salt crystals and will be examining these under a microscope as soon as they are big enough.
**HPE:** In this Health unit, students will examine the reasons why young people use alcohol and drugs, peer pressure and how to make good decisions using assertive behaviour. They will identify the family's role in decision making and how to communicate and support peers in situations involving alcohol and drugs, as well as the steps to follow in an emergency situation. In this Movement unit, students will develop a personal Touch Football fitness plan to improve understanding and application of cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance, strength, flexibility, speed, agility, power, balance and coordination.

**HISTORY:** Students will be exploring the world of Shogunate Japan between 1185 and 1868. Students will build on their knowledge of Medieval Europe in terms of the social and cultural changes and continuities during this period. Students will choose a key figure in Japanese society in this period and research their contribution and importance during this period, drawing on historical sources. Students will record their responses in a research booklet or on an emakimono scroll.

**JAPANESE:** This term in Japanese students will be examining different types of youkai (Japanese folklore monsters), and learning vocabulary associated with this topic such as animals, body parts, and various adjectives. Students will learn basic descriptive sentences, as well as complex sentences with multiple adjectives. Students will create an original youkai of their own design. They will then be required to plan and present a television segment that describes their youkai to viewers. Michelle Handley

**INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN:** This term in Industrial Technology and Design students have begun their designs for their timber pencil boxes and have learned the importance of accurate measuring as well as converting between centimetres and millimetres. Students will have the opportunity to show off their artistic skills when they begin etching their acrylic lids and burning the sides of the box with a design of their own creation. Students have also identified the importance of safety in the workshop.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework for core subjects will be based on daily lessons, revising what has been taught. I urge all students to continue working hard with spelling and tables. A weekly spelling list comprised of rule words, contextual words related to the units of study and personal lists will be negotiated at the beginning of each week and tested on Fridays.

Please ensure your student practices the multiplication tables each night at home as well. This knowledge forms the basis of all maths lessons and becoming proficient with our knowledge in this area will help us to understand the concept covered each lesson. Homework Club is available to students who wish to attend. Please see me if you have any concerns with homework or access to resources. I will be making myself available on particular mornings and afternoons in order to support the students in any way I can.

I am looking forward to a fabulous term of learning with the students.

Melanie Kelly

 mkell181@eq.edu.au

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------cut/tear-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

It would be appreciated if you could provide your e-mail address in order for newsletters to be sent electronically as the preferred communication method in the future.

Name: _____________________________________

E-Mail: _____________________________________