To all B1 parents and guardians, this newsletter is a quick overview of what your child has done in class this term. Mrs Dow / Miss Wong

**Spelling**

All students have done an amazing job at improving their spelling, as you would have seen from their spelling words. Each day we do our Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check. We also do an activity to help us remember your words. We love the rainbow words. Every Friday we do our partner tests and we get new words to learn for the next week. Also, we are working with B2 and B4 and have implemented the Words Their Way Spelling programme. We all go to different spelling groups every Thursdays and Fridays, and we focus on the different spelling families.

**Science**

This semester we have covered 2 units of work - *Year 1 Earth & Space Sciences* explored the natural & manmade features that undergo change and investigations of daily, weekly and seasonal local environmental changes via photographic records in our Class Science Journal. In Year 2, water investigations have shown how this natural resource is used, where it comes from and how it should be conserved. Our B1/B2 SCITECH Excursion in Term 1 was a definite highlight with an Astronaut Exhibition and Planetarium ‘Tilt’ Show reinforcing space exploration and seasonal changes already learnt! In Term 2, *Year 1 Chemical Sciences* investigated how heating or cooling food can change its properties while in Year 2 hands on investigations explored how changing quantities of materials in a mixture can alter its properties.

**Writing**

Over the term B1 has produced some fantastic writing. The main focus of the term was writing recounts. We started the term by looking at structuring our recounts. The 5 w’s: who, what, when, where and why. We also learnt about the importance of structure in writing a story. B1 discovered the importance of having a beginning, middle and an ending when writing any piece of work.

Term 2 main focus was on narrative writing and persuasive texts. The class has produced some great samples. Come see some our text’s located on our back pinup board.
**Humanities and Social Science**

This semester in Year 1, we have focussed on inquiry questions about our present and past family life to build up our historical knowledge of the differences/similarities between our grandparents and our daily lives. In Year 2, we have focussed on inquiry questions about the past in the present to build up our historical knowledge of significant people, buildings or sites and the impact of technology. In Geography, the Year 1’s are looking at natural and man-made environments, and the Year 2’s are looking at Australia and its relationship to the rest of the continents.

**Mathematics**

Year 1 and 2 mathematics is understanding how numbers work and beginning to create fluency in their counting and basic sums. Throughout the term, lessons introduced different strategies to approach counting and sums. These included number lines, counting hands and the following place value song: *I don’t know what I’ve been told (children repeat). Tens are tall and ones are small. First you count up all the tens, add all the babies on the end!* Students used blocks to count, songs to remember strategies and mental math to practice approaches.

**Italian**

The topics covered in Italian are: Counting to 20, the days of the week, Greetings and Easter. Term 2 topics are La Famiglia, clothing and colours.

We love singing the songs Un Punto Di Vista Strambo and Fillastroche e Tiriitere.

**Billboard**

**Dates to remember in Term 3**

B1 Assembly Wednesday, August 24th.

Our virtue is Confidence. We have begun rehearsing for our awesome performance! We look forward to seeing you all then!