Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter will provide you with a basic outline of what your child will be learning this term, as well as the key assessment tasks they will undertaking. I encourage you all to familiarise yourselves with our schools assessment and homework policy as this will be adhered to closely during the year. The policy can be found on our schools website.

This term your child will be studying Chemical Sciences, looking into atomic structure and basic chemical reactions. Throughout the unit students will also be exposed to specific Science Inquiry Skills and will develop an understanding of Science as a Human Endeavour. Our program is aligned with the Australian Curriculum which can be viewed online.

Year 9 Term 2 – Chemical Sciences

Science Understanding/Content Descriptor	**Elaborations**
All matter is made of atoms that are composed of protons, neutrons and electrons; natural radioactivity arises from the decay of nuclei in atoms (ACSSU177)	• describing and modelling the structure of atoms in terms of the nucleus, protons, neutrons and electrons • comparing the mass and charge of protons, neutrons and electrons • describing in simple terms how alpha and beta particles and gamma radiation are released from unstable atoms
Chemical reactions involve rearranging atoms to form new substances; during a chemical reaction mass is not created or destroyed (ACSSU178)	• identifying reactants and products in chemical reactions • modelling chemical reactions in terms of rearrangement of atoms • describing observed reactions using word equations • considering the role of energy in chemical reactions • recognising that the conservation of mass in a chemical reaction can be demonstrated by simple chemical equations
Chemical reactions, including combustion and the reactions of acids, are important in both non-living and living systems and involve energy transfer (ACSSU179)	• investigating reactions of acids with metals, bases, and carbonates • investigating a range of different reactions to classify them as exothermic or endothermic • recognising the role of oxygen in combustion reactions and comparing combustion with other oxidation reactions • comparing respiration and photosynthesis and their role in biological processes • describing how the products of combustion reactions affect the environment

DONNYBROOK DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School PRINCIPAL – James Milne

Assessments

Throughout the term your child will undertake a range of assessment tasks. This will include in class exams, practical sessions and written assignments. Any assignment will be accompanied by an assignment criteria and rubric which will be handed out prior to the due date.

Assessments for Term 2

- Elements Quiz 1
- Conservation of Mass and Combustion Reactions Practical
- Elements Quiz 2
- Topic Test 1 – The Atom and Reaction Types
- A Chemical Change Practical
- Topic Test 2 – Important Materials

Students will be required to complete homework and study topics covered within class sessions. This term students will have ongoing study and will need to recall the basic elements and symbols of the periodic table. They all have a copy of these elements.

If you have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via email or telephone. If you would like to catch up for a meeting regarding your child's progress please contact me or the school and I am more than happy to meet with you.

Kind Regards,

James Duncan
Science Teacher

Wednesday, 10 May 2017