YEAR 3 TERM 1 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

Wednesday, February 20th	Meet the Teacher Interviews
Friday, March 15th	Circus of Life Performance
Monday, Feb 4h—Friday, Feb 8th	3/4 Swimming Program
Friday, April 5th	End of Term 1

Melton West Primary School

Curriculum Overview

English

In the first 20 days of term 1 in Reading & Writing students have been learning the fundamental things they will need to know to be successful during their literacy lessons for the year. Once the first 20 days is over in reading students will be learning how to use their prior knowledge while viewing a text and how this will support their understanding of a text. They will then be practicing their predicting and visualising skills to assist them with having a deeper understanding of the text they are reading.

In writing this term students will be practising their persuasive skills through writing. They will learn the structure of a persuasive text and how to provide evidence to support their position on a particular topic.

Mathematics

In mathematics during Term 1 students will work on the Start-Up Numeracy Program. Students will revisit and revise the problem-solving process, looking at a range of word problems where they must apply different problem-solving strategies, and demonstrate their thinking. Our students, will also investigate the Maths Trolley and how to best utilise the resources they have in their classroom to assist them during maths.

Once our start up program is completed our Grade 3 will be learning about time. This unit will allow students to develop their skills around time by learning how to read clocks, understand the duration of different events and how we use time in our everyday lives. Students will then look at Place Value which will assist in a number of different mathematical areas.

Students will also learn about data. They will learn how to collect data and place this data on a graph. During this unit students will have the opportunity to create their own questions for data collection.

Inquiry

Our Grade 3 students will explore two units of Inquiry this term.

The first Inquiry unit, 'Learning to Learn,' supports students with understanding how they best learn and how to develop and form positive relationships. They will learn how to have a growth mindset and nurture their character strengths. As part of their learning, students will create a 'ready to learn plan' to assist them with self-regulation.

We will then move into our next inquiry unit titled 'Let's Get Physical'. During this inquiry students will address the following key questions:
What are the effects of different food additives on the body and mind (caffeine, red food dye, preservatives, etc.)?
How do our food choices contribute to healthy bodies and healthy minds?

ART

All year levels will begin the term with learning the technique of Graffiti Art and personal design to decorate their art journals and folders. The grade 3's will then learn about spatial awareness as they re-visit the self-portrait. They will learn to incorporate the placement of objects, such as eyes, nose, mouth, and where they fit in relation to each other to create a personalised image of themselves. They will then learn about colour theory, starting with primary colours whilst making connections to famous artists that have worked with primary colours, such as 'Piet Mondrian'. The students will be introduced to the colour wheel and they will create artworks that demonstrate their knowledge of how Primary colours create Secondary colours. The grade 3's will also be looking at Monochromatic colours and how they can be used for shading and tinting to create colour and depth. The students will have fun working and experimenting with a range of art materials including pencil, paint, watercolour, crayon and pastel this term. I look forward to a fun and creative time with all of the grades this term.

CHINESE

This term in Chinese, Grade 3/4 students will be focusing on the Chinese character and some basic greeting words. Students in Grade 3/4 will be discovering the distinctive features of the spoken language and begin to use Pinyin and tone marks to practise syllables and tones they encounter in new words. They will be using Pinyin to write, knowing that characters represent the real form of writing in Chinese. Students are encouraged to use Chinese as much as possible for classroom routines, social interactions, structured learning tasks, and language experimentation and practice. Grade 3/4 students will also investigate Chinese traditional festivals and culture.

During this term, students will be continuing to develop the following skills: Questioning, analysing, collaboration skill, communicating their ideas, literacy and numeracy skill.

PE

Welcome back everyone! This term will be great filled with confidence building and resilience. First we will begin by setting ourselves some goals on what we would like to learn this term in Physical Education. Next, we will be looking at the difference between punting and kicking (the distance of the ball, height and when we would use the different kicks) and this will all be done through the game of footy! Then we will look at the different sports that use overarm throws. Students will try the different methods of overarm throwing through basketball, rugby and soccer. A challenge we will all enjoy!

Get your water ready!

SCIENCE

During term one students will develop their understanding of biology and learn to group living things based on observable features and distinguish them from non-living things.

They will learn to recognise characteristics of living things such as growing, moving, sensitivity and reproducing. Students will sort living and non-living things based on characteristics and explore differences between living, once living and products of living things. Students will also develop their skills in describing how they can use science investigations to respond to questions.

Students will use their experiences to identify questions and make predictions about scientific investigations. They will learn to follow procedures to collect and record observations and suggest possible reasons for their findings, based on patterns in their data.