

10TH FEBRUARY 2020

YEAR 3 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER: TERM 1

Important Dates

Wednesday 19th February	Meet the Teacher—2.00pm to 6.30pm
Week 5	Grade 3/4 Swimming
Monday 9th March	Public Holiday—NO SCHOOL
Monday 23rd March	Inquiry Showcase
Friday 27th March	Last day of Term 1—2.10pm dismissal



Welcome to the 2020 school year!

Reading

The first 20 days will be focused on building a love of reading. Lessons will be around identifying the genres students love to read, as well as the structure of the reading block, setting up of the classroom library and how to use their reading goal books and journals effectively to practise their reading skills and strategies.

Once the rules and routines of reading are established and mastered the students will begin learning the strategies that will support their reading growth and help to decode and comprehend their Just Right Texts.

Students should be reading each night, and filling out their reading log books. They will also receive a small amount of additional, independent homework throughout the term. This is designed to help consolidate their reading skills and strategies. Students will also be able to access Literacy Planet at home and work on tasks set by their classroom teacher, once usernames and passwords have been sent home in their homework books.



Writing

In the first 20 days of writing, students have begun learning to understand why writers write and the purpose of writing.

Once students are back in the routine of writing, they will begin learning to write persuasive texts. They will learn about the structure of a persuasive text and the techniques and language features used to persuade the reader.

Inquiry

This term, students have began our 'Learning to Learn' unit. This focuses on the Positive Behaviour Matrix, where teachers and students will better understand the school behaviour and learning expectations.

Each class will create classroom agreements establishing expected behaviours and build morning and afternoon routines. Students will also be practising to move around the school respectfully and using the 1-3 play equipment safely and fairly.



In the second half of the term, we will begin our Health unit where we will learn that we can use strategies and skills to reduce harm, prevent accidents and create safe environments. The students will have the opportunity to participate in a week long swimming program in Week 5.

Mathematics

This term, students will learn about the structure of the maths lesson and be exposed to the different mathematical resources available in the classroom, learning how to use these tools effectively to assist their learning.

Students will be given a counting goal that will help them become more efficient at solving problems efficiently. Later in the term, our focus will be telling the time, and understanding and using place value to solve.

Students will also have access to Mathletics at home once usernames and passwords have been sent home in the homework book. Their teachers will set personalised tasks that relate to what they are learning in the classroom.

The Grade 3 team is looking forward to working with you and your children this year!



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Art

To start off the term the students are decorating their art journals and folders to add a creative and personal touch. The grade 3 and 4 students have already started working on their 'superhero' self-portraits and are learning to incorporate the placement of objects, such as eyes, nose, mouth and body parts and where they fit in relation to each other. The students will then add features to create their own 'personalised 'Superhero' version of themselves. The main focus of this term is about colour theory, starting with primary colours and 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 secondary, tertiary and complementary colours by mixing and experimenting with the different colour families to create new ones. As an example, tertiary colours are formed when we equally mix two secondary colours together; so the students will create artworks by mixing different colour families together to demonstrate their knowledge of how colours are formed. The students will also work with tints and shades and warm and cool colours and learn about the artists that use them effectively, such as Picasso and Andy Warhol. The 3/4 students will have great fun working in the art room and getting messy with paint, as well as experimenting with a range of colouring materials, such as pencil, texta, crayon and chalk pastel this term. I look forward to a fun and creative time with the 3-4's in the art room this term.

LOTE– Chinese

Welcome back to an exciting new year! During term one, grade threes and fours will understand some traditions that are celebrated during Chinese New Year, such as the reason the Chinese use the colour red and firecrackers. Other topics that will be covered are pets and animals like 猫 māo (cat) and 狗 gǒu (dog), 生日shēngri (birthdays), 运动yùndòng (sports) and 时间shíjiān (time). They will learn to understand how to pronounce Chinese words using pinyin (Romanised sounds). They will learn to write some vocabulary using Chinese characters. Throughout the term, the grade 3s and 4s will be doing a combination of creative activities, role playing conversations and being involved in discussions about Chinese culture and history.

Physical Education

Welcome back everyone! This term will be great filled with confidence building and resilience. With that in mind, we will be using this term to get our first step in the door to prepare for Interschool Sports. First we will look at Tennis, controlling the ball, making sure we use the racket correctly when striking the ball. Students will also use and learn the rules of playing against someone. Next, we will learn the rules to mini Volleyball. Teaching our grade threes to bump and volley with a challenge to control it over the net. After that, we will look at cricket – striking the ball and building the running stamina. Finally, we will look at soccer. We will focus on the kicking for accuracy and the force we use when we kick.

Get your water ready because it's time to play!

Science

This term in science, the year 3 and 4's will be focusing on the unit of Biological Science. Students will explore the difference between living and non-living things, along with different life cycles. Students will be making and recording observations of living things as they develop through their life cycles for example insects, frogs and flowering plants. Later this term, students will have the opportunity to plant their own seeds and observe the changes in the life cycle of a flowering plant, whilst documenting their observations weekly.