

26TH MARCH 2020

# YEAR 4 CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER: TERM 1



Melton West  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Important Dates

Friday 26th March	Last day of Term 1: <b>Early dismissal</b>
Tuesday 14th April	First day of Term 2: 8.50am

Term 1 has come to an end, and what an exciting term it has been with lots of learning.

### Reading



The Grade 4's have had a wonderful term in reading learning to grow as readers and become critical 21st century thinkers. The focus of the learning has centred around visualising. Students learned to create mental images before, during and after reading and to identify specific vocabulary used by the author to help the reader visualise. They were introduced to language features such as onomatopoeia, similes and metaphors. During individual conferencing and small teacher groups, students were taught how to use specific reading strategies to support their individual growth and achieve their personal goals.

### Writing

This term, the students were introduced to explanation texts. They deconstructed a variety of explanation to identify the structure and language features pertinent to explaining the how or why something occurs, for example, how bees make honey. We focussed on using a general statement, sequential paragraphing, a concluding statement and how a diagram supports and adds meaning to what we are explaining. Students were explicitly taught how to use words such as if, then and consequently to reflect cause and effect and first, next and finally to indicate time. Each week, students also had time to complete personal choice writing. This was where they could use their writer's notebook ideas to focus on working through the writing process to complete a piece of writing. We were extremely pleased with the quality of writing and the young aspiring writers we have in Grade 4.

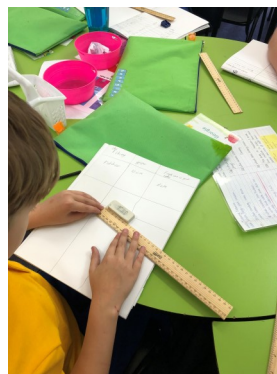
### Inquiry

This term, our Grade 4 students have been thoroughly engaged in researching and learning about the healthy eating and life style habits required to promote health, safety and wellbeing. They researched the benefits of different coloured fruits and vegetables and how eating a rainbow helps your health. For example, a red apple which is a red food is coloured by a natural plant pigment called lycopene. Lycopene is a powerful antioxidant that can help reduce the risk of cancer and keep the heart healthy. Additionally, students learned about particular muscle groups and identified the exercises to match the muscle group. For example, the heart is a muscle and skipping is an excellent exercise to keep our heart fit and healthy. The assessment piece required students to design a healthy lunch-box and use their developing knowledge to decide what should be in there and the number of servings according to the Nutrition Guidelines, and justifying the reasons why they included this particular food.

We look forward to Term 2 and continuing to work in partnership with you to ensure high levels of learning for all. Have a wonderful and safe term break.

### Mathematics

The Grade 4's learning in Maths this term focussed on time, place value, length and data. They were given a time goal and a skip counting goal which they practised each week to support their developing counting skills. They learned to skip count up to 100 000 from both zero and non-zero starting points, and to build numbers up to 100 000, for example, 10 ten-thousands make 1 hundred thousand.



The term ended with the students learning about length and how to solve problems requiring measuring of an attribute accurately. They used their problem solving skills to prove that 1.5m is longer than 1m and 25 cm., and selected appropriate metric units to measure objects such as a pencil, table and basket ball court.

## ART

Grade 3/4 students have started the term decorating and personalizing their art journals, which are used for students to foster their ideas and explore art techniques. They have also been creating artworks that portray themselves as 'superheroes'. The 'superhero' self-portraits incorporated the placement of objects, such as eyes, nose, mouth, arms and legs, as well as an estimation of where those parts fit in relation to each other, to create their own 'personalized 'Superhero' version of themselves.

The main focus of this term for all students is colour theory. We have covered Primary and Secondary colours with the grade 3-4's and are currently introducing Tertiary colours. The students have made connections to famous artists that use Primary and Secondary colours, such as 'Piet Mondrian' and have adopted various techniques from their artworks. The students have also been introduced to the colour wheel and are experimenting and mixing the different colour groups to create new shades that are Tertiary colours. Tertiary colours are formed when we equally mix a Primary and a Secondary colour together and the students have demonstrated this knowledge through their artwork. The 3-4's will finally see the term out experimenting with warm and cool colours and they will learn how artists such as Picasso, effectively use these colours to enhance their art. It has been great fun working with paint and colour this term and the new art room has offered the freedom to work with messy mixed mediums; such as acrylic, watercolour, crayon, chalk and oil pastel which has had great results.



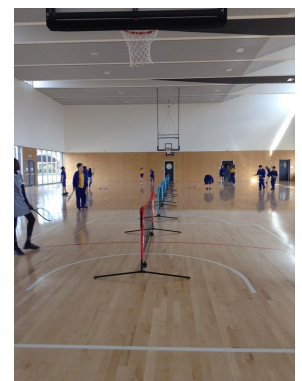
## SCIENCE

Well done to the year 3 and 4's for a successful first term in science. The students have been busy exploring the differences between living and non-living things. We explored the characteristics of these and created posters to show our understanding of the topic. Keep an eye out in the science room as you may see yours on display. The students will be ending the unit by researching an animal of their choice and creating posters to show the animal's life cycle and how environmental factors affect their environment. Please ensure your child has returned their ICT agreement form so they can have the opportunity to use technology to support their learning with this.



## PE

Time flies when we are having fun! This term we got our first step in the door to prepare for Inter-school Sports by introducing the different sports. First we looked at Tennis, rallying the ball back and forth and keeping the ball. Students then learnt the rules of Hot Shot tennis and applied them when playing against someone. Next, we learnt the rules of Volleyball. Teaching our grade fours to serve the ball and knowing when to bump (when we receive the ball low) vs volley (when the ball is coming from above). After that, we looked at cricket – striking the ball and building running stamina. Well done and great Sportsmanship everyone! During all this great learning, our grade fours attended swimming, making sure they are one step closer to being confident swimmers and reaching that 50m mark in the pool!



Take a break, drink some water because we are about to reach term 2!