

YEAR 4 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER: TERM 3

Important Dates

September 18th	Last Day Term 3
October 5th	First Day Term 4



Reading

In term 3 whilst remote learning, students have been focusing on questioning. We began by asking questions before, during and after reading to help us engage in and understand our texts. The students used the OAR (question—answer relationship) to ask and answer questions. We focused on being able to identify and answer right there questions, think and search questions, author and me question and finally, on my own questions. After focusing on how to identify and answer these questions the students learnt the difference between thick and thin questions. Thick questions—answers that aren't right there in the text and require deeper thinking, connections and inferences. Thin questions—answers that are easy to find and are often right there in the text. We learnt when we should ask each type of question and the importance of them.

Writing

In writing, the students began the term focusing on Poetry. We started with free verse poems, that have no structure but include a range of poetic devices such as similes, onomatopoeia, personification and metaphors throughout. We then moved onto Haiku poems and Limericks, analysing the structure and creating our own. The remainder of the term we focused on Biographies. During this we focused on the purpose of a biography and it's structure. The students demonstrated their learning and understanding by researching and creating a biography of a person they know, and a person of their choice. We looked at the different mediums biographies can be created in, other than written text, such as PowerPoints and posters. Students finished the unit by completing another biography in their chosen medium about a person of their choice.

Inquiry

In term 3, we completed a unit called "Go Green". This unit focused on sustainability and the environment. We looked at how the environment supports the lives of humans and other living things on the Earth such as animals and trees/plants. We then began to look at the way that we can live more sustainably and the impact this can have on the environment and different places. We then looked at the relevant waste disposal methods in the Melton City Council and the new Food Organics, Garden Waste (FOGO) initiative that has recently become available in our council. To complete the unit the students created their own sustainable home demonstrating what they have learnt about sustainability and caring for the environment.

Using Less Water

Do not stay in the shower for so long because you will waste water.
If there is a cup of water on the table don't tip it down the drain give it to the plants.
If you don't have plants you can water the grass.
If you use the dishwasher it uses a lot of water but if you hand wash it doesn't take up a lot of water.

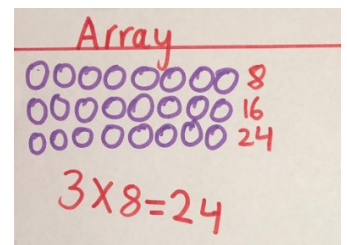


Mathematics

In term 3, we began the term with a data and probability unit. This started by developing an understanding of the vocabulary used and applying this throughout our learning. We then started looking at the likelihood of things occurring such as what colour is a spinner likely to land on.

After data and probability we started a multiplication and division unit. In this unit students used their knowledge of place value to help solve problems. We had a strong focus on multiplication facts and continue to develop this skill throughout the unit. To finish the unit students focused on division using arrays to help solve problems.

To finish the term we focused on location and symmetry learning about the different features on maps and creating symmetrical shapes.



The Grade 4 teachers are so appreciative of all the support during remote learning.

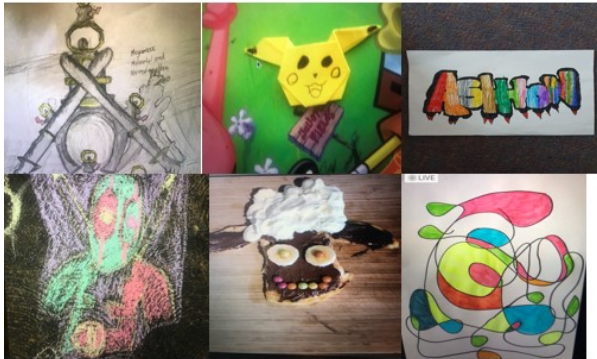
We look forward to seeing you (hopefully in person) in term 4!

ART

During 3-4 Art, 'Remote learning Term 3', we have encouraged students to be creative at home. Activity choice boards were provided that included 9 activities to choose from, to allow student's to have choice, given the limitations of working at home.

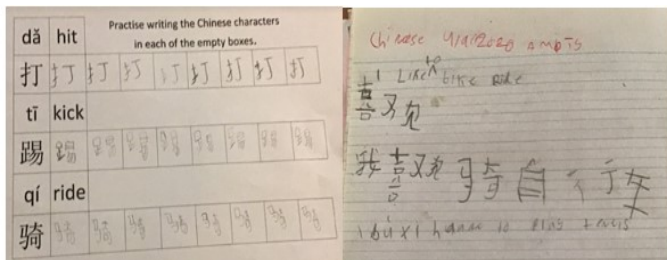
The 3-4 choice board predominately focused on lines and the importance that lines play in creating Art: Graffiti Art and Chalk Art; a style of Street Art drawing was very popular. Students also created Zen tangle drawings; which focuses on designs within an object and 'Doodle Art' using 'Anime drawing' was also popular. The students worked with Abstract Art, some using technology to design and others with mixed mediums. To add some fun and variety to the choice board; the students got creative in the kitchen with 'Food Art' and others were crafty with 'Origami', 'Pom Pom' making, and experimented with 'Crazy Hat designs'! Finally for those who could not do any of the activities provided, I added the option, "Home is where the ART is". This allowed students to choose their creative path using materials available at home, to create their Masterpiece!

Unfortunately I can't show all of the wonderful work that was done, however here are some samples of the fantastic work created by the students during remote learning 2.0. I am so proud of the quality of work done at home.



LOTE-CHINESE

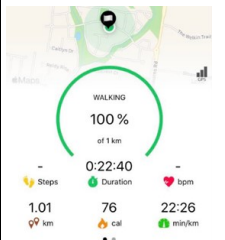
In Term 3, the grade threes and fours have shown continued persistence and hard work in their remote learning. They have been involved in lessons and tasks to build on their knowledge and understanding of the Chinese language and culture. The topics that we covered were: greetings and introductions, family members, interests and sports. Many students have uploaded incredible work onto Google Classroom, which were presented in videos, voice recordings and written assignments. I wish to thank the parents again for their hard work and perseverance in supporting their children during this term.



PE

What a fantastic way to end the term! I want to congratulate all of our students for staying active in creative ways while under these interesting circumstances. This term, our 3/4s focused on two skill sets. First, we looked at ways to maintain stamina through running, mimicking our cross country unit, crossing over with our athletics unit. We had some great times! The second focus we had this term was different for each grade. Our grade 3's focused on skipping. I am so happy to see our students skipping and pushing themselves to try something new! Our grades 4's got creative and created their own games that we can play with an advertisement.

Such hard work and now it is time to rest! See you next term!



SCIENCE

This term, students in years 3 and 4 have completed their science tasks from a choice board. The choice board consisted of 9 engaging tasks which linked into our focus of Physics for this term. Students have explored how heat can be transferred through conduction & how heat is produced. They learnt how to recognise and identify that we can feel heat and measure its effects using a thermometer. Students spent time investigating the effect of forces using different actions - throwing, dropping, bouncing & rolling. Students compared the effects of friction on different surfaces and they explored the forces of attraction and repulsion between magnets. The students have worked extremely hard this term conducting these experiments. I have thoroughly enjoyed receiving videos and tasks on Google Docs about the learning students have completed this term. Great work everybody!

