

TERM 3: 3/4 CELEBRATORY NEWSLETTER



Important Dates

DATE	EVENT
Friday, September 21st	End of Term 3 (Early Dismissal at 2:10 PM)
Monday, October 8th	Start of Term 4
Monday, November 5th	Curriculum Day (Pupil Free Day)

Reading

In Term 3, our readers learned to **summarise** fiction and non-fiction texts by identifying the most pertinent information and discarding unnecessary information in their just right books. Our readers transferred these understandings to their next topic of learning: **synthesising**. Students learned how to identify their prior knowledge on different topics, research new information on these topics, and then add to these understandings in written or oral forms. Our readers ended the term by **analysing** the visual and language features in their just right texts by evaluating the various choices that authors and illustrators make to engage, inform or persuade their audiences. Throughout the term, our readers have continued practising their goals and participating in reading conferences with their teachers.



Writing

This term, our writers increased their experience in composing **explanation texts**. Explanation texts seek to justify the 'how' or 'why' of a given phenomenon, such as why zebras have stripes or how bees make honey. Our writers learned that explanation texts follow a structure that includes a general statement, explanation, diagram and conclusion. They also discovered that these texts are written in the present tense, use a third-person perspective, and employ technical vocabulary. At the tail-end of this term, our writers also learned how to create different **advertisements** to target particular audiences. Some of the advertisement products that our writers made included cereal boxes, travel brochures, and real estate ads. Our writers are also continuing to learn about different spelling strategies through their spelling inquiries.



Mathematics

Our mathematicians gained further experience in two key areas of mathematical understanding at this level of development. In the first of these topics, **multiplication and division**, our learners gained greater fluency in recalling multiplication facts up to 10×10 . Our mathematicians also learned about the importance of creating arrays to solve multiplication and division problems as a means of moving them from 'additive' to 'multiplicative' thinking.

For our second major topic, **fractions and decimals**, our learners created continuous models of fractions up to tenths using paper-folding strategies and learned how to find basic equivalent fractions. Our learners also discovered how to find fractions of collections. Finally, our mathematicians investigated the use of decimal fractions up to hundredths.



Inquiry

Our Grade 3/4 learners have investigated their termly Inquiry topic, titled '**Heroes That Shaped Our Nation**.' The key understandings of this topic were: 'significant contributions made by Aboriginal people have helped shape Australian society.'

Our learners learned about some of the key historical figures in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and their contributions to society, including Mandawuy Yunupingu (Yothu Yindi band leader), Cathy Freeman (athlete), Adam Goodes (AFL player), Eddie Koiki Mabo (activist), and David Unaipon (preacher, author and inventor).

As part of their assessment of learning on this Inquiry topic, our learners completed a biography on one of these or another key Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander figure of their choice, which they presented to their classmates and teachers.



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Art

The Year 3/4 students spent term 3 developing their understanding of the Visual Design and Principles of 'Texture, Value, Gradation and Proportion.' They learnt the artist skills that allowed them to add value and tone to their art through Still-life and textural pieces. They looked at the shadows and how to use these to create depth and dimension to their art. The students created texture inspired echidna's, foil art incorporating texture, still life sketches using a range of inspiration i.e. animals, photos and food, and clay Lizards to celebrate the school pet (Lizzy).



Science

The 3/4's have been learning about how a solid or a liquid can change state (phase), caused by adding or removing heat. Students have observed a variety of materials melted in a pan and guessed their original form. They have melted ice in their hands, exploring how heat moves from a warmer object to a colder object and can cause it to change from a solid to a liquid. They have also experimented with melting, cooling and freezing a variety of materials using different heat sources, including lights, heaters, fridges and freezers, the sun and their own body heat. All grade 3/4 students have jumped at the opportunity to experiment and learn more about how matter exists on earth in different forms, and that these forms can change depending on temperature.

Physical Education

This has been a great term for our 3/4 cohort. We started off the term with our stamina building via the beep test. Students reflected on how we were using our respiratory system to get us moving.

We have focused on invasion games this term. We structured our game skill set around teamwork, communication and agility. It is important that our students understand that it takes a team or a village for things to work.

We finished off the term by learning more about our bodies. The cohort worked on their passion projects and have presented it to their peers. Together, we have a better understanding about our bodies and how they work.

Stay hydrated and make sure you stretch because we have one more term to go!

