

21 February 2017

Welcome

Welcome back to Term 1, 2017. We warmly welcome our new parents and students to Year 3 and Year 4. We are looking forward to a positive year for all our students, with lots of learning and exciting events to take place. We are off to a great start as all students are working hard and becoming familiar with classroom routines. We are very proud of their efforts and behaviour thus far.



Year 3 Team

Our Teachers

This year we have seven classes in Stage 2:

3E – Mrs Kelly Emery **3S** – Miss Samantha Sorrell
3R – Mr Patrick Gortley (Miss Krista Rampe in Semester 2)
3CV – Mrs Nicole Carters (Wed-Fri) and Mrs Lauren Viskovich (Mon/Tues)
4N – Miss Danielle Nero **4T** – Miss Lindsay Taylor
4WB – Miss Kate Waters (Wed-Fri) and Mrs Sarah Batistich (Mon/Tues)
 Supervised by Miss Angela Mustaca (Deputy Principal)

Below is the proposed outline of our teaching and learning programs for the term and some additional information regarding upcoming events.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 21 February - Scripture/Ethics begins for all students
 Wednesday 22 February - Stage 2 'Meet the Teacher' Evening 6.00-7.15 pm
 Tuesday 7 March - Zone Swimming Carnival
 Wednesday 8 March - Coloured Strings Day
 Thursday 23 March - School Photos
 Tuesday 28 March - Lindfield Blue Assembly
 Wednesday 29 March - Interrelate: 'Where Did I Come From?' 6 - 7pm
 Friday 7 April - Last day of Term 1

Spelling Mastery: Monday – Thursday 9 – 9.30 am

Assemblies: Tuesday 2 – 3 pm (even weeks)

Scripture/Ethics: Tuesdays 10.30 am – 11.00 am

PSSA/School Sport: Fridays 9.00 am – 11.00 am

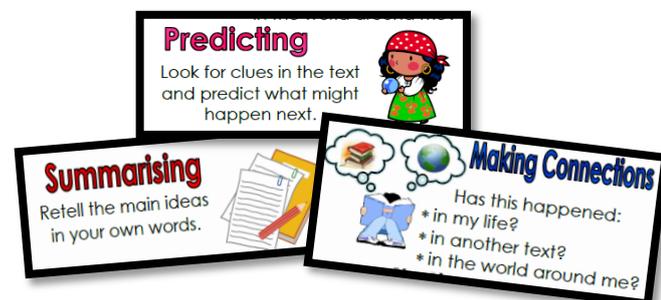
English

Reading and Viewing - During Term 1 our students will be learning about the Super 6 Comprehension Strategies. They will be learning to effectively incorporate the skills of predicting, connecting, questioning, visualising, monitoring and summarising, to comprehend a range of fiction and factual texts.

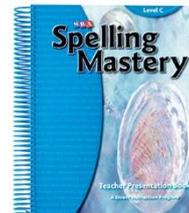
Writing and Representing – Our writing focus this term will incorporate imaginative and informative forms of communication. Students will learn strategies to write 'imaginative mysteries' and informative texts such as travel guides. Teachers will focus on strategies to allow students to write 'sizzling starts' and to 'plan for success' through the use of effective language choice. Grammar is integrated into the writing lessons and consolidated in the 'Improving Sentences' lessons. A 'Word of the Week' will also be a focus this term, in order to enhance student vocabulary and expose students to words with which they are unfamiliar.



Year 4 Team



Spelling - Spelling Groups will commence in Week 6. Students will continue to develop their spelling skills through the 'Spelling Mastery' program. Using a combined approach of phonemic, morphemic and whole-word strategies, Spelling Mastery helps students to understand the relationship between sounds, word parts and spelling patterns. Students are taught in small steps, using sufficient practice, so that they comprehend how spelling works and can become proficient writers.



Speaking and Listening – We encourage students to understand the effect of purpose and audience in their own and others' spoken texts. This term all students will be presenting their 'Marvelous Me' (Year 3) and 'Amazing Life' projects (Year 4) to the class and will have many opportunities to interact with their classmates.

Library – Year 3 and 4 classes will have weekly borrowing time with Miss Liddell or Mrs Kroie in the library this term. Students are encouraged to borrow age appropriate material to read nightly.

Mathematics

Our Stage 2 Mathematics program incorporates a range of teaching strategies utilising practical, 'hands on', book based and Smartboard resources to target our teaching practice to the needs of the students.

This term lessons will focus on a concept each week including: **whole numbers, length, addition and subtraction, area, multiplication, division, chance, data, fractions, volume and capacity.**

The Mathematics K–6 Continuum of Key Ideas is used to identify each part. As an example, the specific key ideas for Length for Stage 2 can be seen here. →

By the end of Stage 2, students should ask questions and use efficient mental and written strategies with increasing fluency to solve problems. Another emphasis in Mathematics is to ensure that students check statements for accuracy and are able to explain their reasoning.

Students will shortly be receiving their Mathletics username and password and will be set homework tasks by their teacher using this online program throughout the year. 'Live Mathletics' is a great tool to improve number facts computation. All Mathematics homework will consolidate the weekly concept being taught.

Stage 2

Length

Part 1

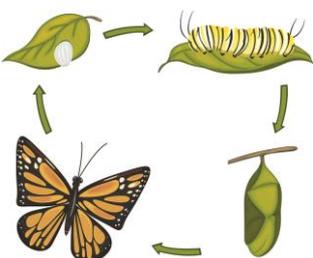
- Use metres, centimetres and millimetres to measure, compare, order and estimate lengths
- Record lengths using the abbreviations m, cm and mm

Part 2

- Select and use appropriate scaled instruments and units to measure and compare lengths
- Estimate and measure perimeters of two-dimensional shapes
- Convert between metres, centimetres and millimetres
- Record lengths and distances using decimal notation to two decimal places
- Use a scaled instrument to measure and compare temperatures
- Record temperatures using the symbol for degrees (°)

Science and Technology

This term Years 3 and 4 students will study the unit 'Which Came First?' In response to community concerns about the decline in the local animal or plant population, students will describe how changes in the environment caused by humans may affect the survival of living things.



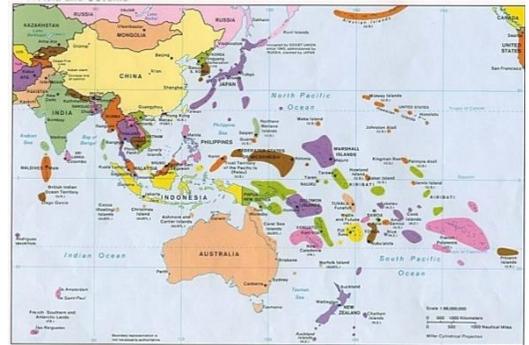
They will develop their knowledge and understanding of the life cycles of living things and the ways that changes in the environment can affect life cycles. Students will use this knowledge to raise awareness for the need to protect local places and spaces, so that plants and animals can survive and reproduce. They will extend their understanding of observable features, change and growth of living things to the concept of life cycles, as they observe first-hand the stages in the life cycle of a plant or animal.

In computer lessons with Mr Brock, students will be exposed to Computational Thinking by participating in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. 'Digital Citizenship' lessons will be spread across the year, with an emphasis on issues concerning cybersafety and cyberbullying. Later in the term, Year 3 students will learn how to email appropriately with respect to the 'Code of Conduct'. Students will learn how to share files through attachments to facilitate collaborative projects. Year 4 students will learn how to use Google Suites (Docs, Slides and, Classroom) for collaborative works that they will do throughout the year.

Geography

In our Geography lessons this semester, Stage 2 will study the unit 'Places are Similar and Different'. This will include students examining the natural and human features of Australia and the diverse characteristics of Australia's neighbouring countries. They will explore the different climates, settlement patterns and demographic characteristics of places and use this information to imagine what it would be like to live in different places. Students will consider how people's perceptions of places are the basis for actions to protect places and environments. Key inquiry questions will include:

- How and why are places similar and different?
- What would it be like to live in a neighbouring country?
- How do people's perceptions about places influence their views about the protection of places?



PDHPE

All classes will take part in weekly physical education lessons with Mr Elsley, Miss Liddell or Mrs Viskovich. This term, Stage 2 will be focusing on Active Lifestyles and Gymnastics. In each lesson, students will identify the activities people participate in to maintain an active lifestyle. In Gymnastics, the students will explore different movement patterns to form a simple routine.

PSSA sport takes place on Friday mornings from 9am – 11am. Students who are not participating in PSSA Cricket, Modball or Touch Football will be involved in sports groups at school.

Class swimming commenced last week. Students will be taught and supervised by the swimming coaches and their teacher.

We will continue to implement our 'Positive Behavior for Engaging Learners' (PBEL) throughout 2017 reinforcing the school and classroom expectations of Respect, Organised, Responsible and Aspire.



Creative Arts

In Visual Arts lessons, students will learn to appreciate various styles of art and will use a range of media and materials in a variety of ways. Students will take part in weekly lessons focusing on line, shapes, 3D objects, perspectives, texture and colour. Each class will also have an 'Artist of the Month' to ensure our creative students who produce impressive artworks are recognised.

Music

Music lessons will be taught once a week by Mrs Burbage in the Community Room. All Year 3 students will continue learning to play the descant recorder. Throughout this term, students will be awarded a different coloured loom band for every note (G,A,B,C,D) they can play with correct fingering and articulation. These loom bands will decorate their recorder as seen in the photo. Students will be asked to take care of their bands as they are not replaceable. Later in the term students will start to learn more complex melodies. Students will also focus on songs linked to the current Geography unit, 'Places are Similar and Different'.



Year 4 students will learn to play the soprano ukulele. The school has purchased a class set of ukuleles which will give the students opportunities to play various strumming patterns and chords. They will have practice in naming and labelling the different parts of the ukulele, in identifying the four strings by name and in reading tab notation. They will attempt independent tuning of all four strings, using an electronic tuner, after observing several demonstrations.

Homework

Homework aims to develop time management skills and effective work habits at home. It attempts to consolidate and engage each student in their own work. Learning to plan and organise their time will be an essential part of high school in a few years' time. Planning their time well at the start of a task will avoid a last minute effort. Last minute efforts are always of poor quality and will leave students feeling stressed and frustrated. This semester homework will be handed out fortnightly. Please communicate with your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Absences

Absences from school do require a note explaining the absence and should accompany the student on their return to school. Please advise the school of an extended absence (10 days or more) that requires the completion of an Extended Leave form. If students are arriving at school late or departing school early, they must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and signed in or out at the front office.

'Meet the Teacher' Evening

We look forward to welcoming you into our classrooms on Wednesday 22 February from 6.00 pm. Each meeting will start in your child's classroom and will run for approximately 30 minutes. Parents and carers are then invited to the hall at 6.30 pm for information regarding issues concerning Stage 2.

Weekly Timetable for Swimming and PE

Class Swimming Days (Please note there may be changes to this timetable from time to time.)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4WB	3R	3S and 4N	3E, 4T and 3CV	

PE Days (Please note there may be changes to this timetable from time to time.)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3E	4N	3R, 3CV and 4T	4WB	3S

NB - All Year 3 – 6 students wear their sports uniforms on Friday.

Parent Helpers

We will occasionally need parent helpers for excursions or in the classroom throughout the year, and will send home notes requesting help at that time. Please ensure you have a current 'Working with Children Check' if you intend to volunteer as a parent helper.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your child and our school. Thank you in particular to those parents who have already offered to be class parents. We are very lucky to have so many parents willing to give up their time to assist the school.

If at any time you have questions about your child's education or wellbeing please feel free to make an appointment with us via email or the school office on 9416 1903. Please note that weekly staff meetings take place on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday afternoons.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year.

Year 3 Team

Mrs Nicole Carters

Mrs Kelly Emeny

Mr Patrick Gortley

Miss Samantha Sorrell

Mrs Lauren Viskovich

Year 4 Team

Mrs Sarah Batistich

Miss Danielle Nero

Miss Lindsay Taylor

Miss Kate Waters

Miss Angela Mustaca - Deputy Principal and Year 3 and 4 Supervisor

