

Term One Overview, 2019
Year 3

Dear Families

Welcome to an exciting Term 1. Below is an outline of our curriculum for this term. We have had a fabulous start to the learning year and we are very impressed with the way all students have settled into their new classroom surroundings. We have begun with activities based on cooperation and 'getting to know you'. As parents you have valuable knowledge of your child's individual interests, strengths and needs. We look forward to establishing a productive partnership with you. We are currently nurturing an engaging and friendly learning culture. We have made class agreements, discussed expectations and begun term one routines. We look forward to a fantastic year with you all.

English

Writing

In writing this term students will be focusing on the language features and structure of persuasive and narrative writing. Students will be given daily opportunities to write including a writer's notebook. In this book they will complete writing tasks to generate ideas and help to inspire them to become better writers. Explicit instruction will be given on the language features of persuasions and narratives.

Reading

Every morning from 9-9:30am students read their own choice books. During this time teachers conference with students and have them read aloud to practise reading with expression. This is done both individually and in small groups. Students will also be explicitly taught strategies to assist them in becoming better readers. Our focus in Term 1 for those strategies will be monitoring, making connections, questioning and inferencing. Students will use both teacher lead texts and their own choice when practising their comprehension skills.

Speaking and Listening

In term 1 students will use a variety of mediums to practise their speaking and listening skills. This will be reading aloud their written work, using puppets to speak as different people and reading aloud texts both in small groups and to the whole class. Our aim with all of these tasks is to have students practise their pitch, tone and speed to allow others to understand them.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra

Students have begun our number unit with a strong focus on place value. This sets the foundation for understanding our number system. Students will develop fluency with numbers and recognise, order and represent numbers to 10 000. During the second half of the term students will be working on developing a range of strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems and investigate the connection between addition and subtraction. Students will have daily practise in exploring and practising these concepts including vertical algorithms, split, jump and compensation strategies.

Measurement and Geometry

The focus this term will be on time. Students will recognise there are 60 minutes in an hour and 60 seconds in a minute.

Statistics and Probability

Students will be looking at chance and data. Students will be conducting repeated trials of chance experiments such as tossing a coin or drawing a ball from a bag and identifying the variations between trials.

W@M Wednesdays

This term on a Wednesday after recess, we will participate in explicit social emotional learning (SEL) lessons known as W@M Wednesdays. These are not isolated lessons, and W@M principles and the BRICK values continue to be integrated into all aspects of our culture and learning. Positive rewards are ways we can recognise individuals and the learning behaviours that we want to see in our classrooms. They are compatible with the theory of Positive Behaviour for Learning when they are used to teach the desired behaviour that we want to see. The W@M token is our agreed upon method of rewarding students who have shown the positive behaviours at Macgregor Primary School and will be recorded as part of the classroom W@M points tallies for the week. Students work towards earning W@M badges when they reach milestones for our four W@M Values - Respect, Responsible, Safe, Learners.

Inquiry Unit

This term year three students will be exploring Night and Day in Science. They will explore how cultural stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples explain the cyclic phenomena involving sun, moon and stars and how those explanations differ from contemporary science understanding. Students will also recognise the sun as a source of light. In Geography, students will explore understandings of our Global Neighbours and take a virtual tour looking at the climates, settlement patterns and population characteristics of places, and how these affect communities, past and present.

The Arts

The Arts enables children to express their creativity and individuality in many ways. In Visual Arts students will be encouraged to explore ideas using paint and other art mediums. Year 3 students will attend a specialist visual arts and music lesson each week with Fabio Fabbo for 45 minutes. They will make and respond to both visual art pieces and music independently and collaboratively with their peers. In art, students will be making images relating to a variety of environments into original art works. In music, students will use their voice, keyboards and glockenspiels to develop their aural skills by exploring and imitating sounds, pitch and rhythm patterns. To further expand on these concepts, students will experiment with different types of instruments and how they can be used to create a simple composition.

ICT

Students have access to chromebooks this year. They will engage in a range of learning technologies. We also encourage the children to use a whole school online reading program called 'Reading Eggs'. All classrooms at Macgregor have Interactive Whiteboards to enhance lessons and student understanding, along with consolidating ICT skills. Students will have a Google Classroom which they can access at home. These details will be provided once the classroom is set up.

Spanish Language and Culture

In Spanish this term for year three we will be learning simple verbs and using language that is specific to the classroom. We will become familiar with language that enables students to collaborate with each other. This term our involvement with the Uruguayan Embassy and our Sister School program will involve the Spanish readathon (El Día de los libros) and the Uruguayan carnival which traditionally happens over January and February. All students will be making a mask to wear at a carnival which will be held under the COLA on Thursday week 4.

Library

Students in year 3 will enjoy weekly library sessions run by their classroom teacher and the teacher librarian (Mrs John) during 2019. Students will engage with quality children's literature and be encouraged to read and borrow books from the library regularly. The set borrowing limit is 4 books at a time. We will also learn about the library layout, how it works, and finding books using Oliver LMS (in the library). Students need a library bag of any kind to help protect our school books when taking them home. The library is also open for your child to visit at lunch times.

Library Day- 3SM-Monday 3MC-Tuesday 3LH-Thursday

PE/Fundamental Motor Skills

Every week for 45 minutes the students will be participating in a fundamental movement skills program with Bethany Taylor. These movement skills are the 'building blocks' for most movement patterns in sport. This forms one component of the school's physical education program. Students receive explicit instruction and the opportunity to practice through a range of games and activities. This term we will be focusing on the skills of fair play and cooperative games. It is important that students know and understand how to play games together showing team work and sportsmanship. Fitness is also an important aspect of PE, the students will participate in the beep test and the scores will be recorded to show the students' progress throughout the year. Activities such as the Fitness Alphabet will also be used to demonstrate to the students the correct technique and give them ideas of ways to stay fit and healthy in their own time. Locomotor skills such as skipping will be learned as well. We will walk the cross country track and practise running so the students are familiar with exactly what to do on the day. To help your child please ensure they wear appropriate footwear such as sports shoes, have a drink bottle and wear a hat every day.

Other Happenings

Specialist-Tuesday morning will be specialist time for Year 3.

Tennis-Wednesdays 3SM will be weeks 1-6 3MC- week 7-Term 2, week 1, 3LH-Term 2-weeks 3-6.

Reading Eggs-logins home this week

Seesaw-notes home, please sign up so we can start to add students work

Cross Curricula Groups-On Tuesdays and Fridays will mix together to work on coding, physical education and drama. These will start in week 4 and students will stay with a teacher for 2 weeks and then move to the next group so by the end of term will have had each teacher.

Friendly Reminders;

- The weather is very variable in Canberra, please make sure your child has appropriate clothing, footwear, a sunsmart hat, and enough food and water for a whole day of learning
- Please label your child's possessions (hats, jumpers, stationery, lunch box, drink bottle etc.) so that we can return items we find as quickly as possible
- Learning starts at 9.00am. If your child is late arriving to school, please ensure that they are signed in at the front office. Also, just a friendly reminder that in the event of your child being absent, please send in a written note to your child's teacher, or send a notification through the Macgregor Primary School App.
- When the children arrive at school, we ask that they congregate in the senior COLA and the immediate surrounding areas. The junior and senior fixed equipment playgrounds are not able to be used before 9am
- We welcome assistance from parents and carers. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like to volunteer. We arrange for all our volunteers to complete a form at the front office. Regular volunteers (more than seven times a year or four times in any one month) apply for a Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. The process is easy and the front office staff are always available to help
- Please see the school calendar which is attached to the school newsletter for important dates. We also provide information on Facebook, See Saw and the school's website

- During our morning session we have a short fruit/vegetable break. Please send a small piece/container of fresh fruit or vegetables for your child to eat at this time.
- Please remember we are an allergy aware school. Please do not pack nuts or nut products for your child
- We are encouraging the children to leave their bags at their assigned outdoor area until the bell and we seek your support to remind your child. Teachers are preparing lessons and attending meetings before 9am.

Kind Regards

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