Dear Families,

Welcome to Term Four.

In this letter we will briefly explain some of the engaging programs that will be happening this term as well as inform you of a few changes and housekeeping matters to support you and your child’s return to school for a new term.

**English**
This term we are continuing with our Reader’s Workshop. Our focus is to improve our use of evidence from the story to support our written answers and summaries. We will also be continuing with our spelling groups, which will have a focus on word patterns, meaning and word origins. In writing our focus will be on sentence and paragraph structure and how to make our writing more interesting by using descriptive language. We will then apply these new writing skills to narrative and poetry writing.

**Mathematics**
Throughout the term we will continue to develop our mental computation skills in Speed Racers with a particular focus on division and multiplication. We are also investigating time, money and capacity as part of our health and science units.

**Health**
Following on from our Plants in Action unit in science last term, students will be using herbs and vegetables grown at school to plan and prepare healthy meals. We will also study what is a balanced diet and how food affects our health and wellbeing.

**Physical Education**
During in-class Physical Education we will have a focus on participation and fair play in group based activities and games. Our plan is to help students develop personal fitness goals that will be reflected on throughout the term.

**History**
Students will explore what life was like for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of the Europeans. In addition students will discuss the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers. We will focus on posing questions about the diversity and long and continuous connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to Country. We will be sequences information and people’s lives and events using timelines, tables and stories.

**Technology**
During technology the students will study how parachutes are designed and built. They will then design, make and appraise their own miniature parachutes. Students will investigate how forces and properties of
the materials they use affect their final product. We are using iPads and Chrome books daily for different purposes including creating texts, searching for information and developing presentations.

Visual Arts and Performing Arts
Students will continue with dance during the in-class arts programme. They will get the opportunity to form groups, develop choreography and perform their own dance routine. During visual arts they will continue to explore different techniques and design elements to produce original pieces of art.

Housekeeping
Students need to bring fruit for our regular fruit break and they are asked to bring their water bottles in each day. The weather will continue to get warmer and if they have water bottles in the classroom it will reduce the disruption in class. They also need to remember to bring an appropriate bucket or legionnaires hat to school. This is a requirement for outside play, but also when they go outside during class time.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child’s progress, please do not hesitate to contact us. The best way to get in contact with us is via email.

Yours sincerely,

Rob, Simone and Willa
21 October 2016

robert.venables@ed.act.edu.au
simone.xirakis@ed.act.edu.au
willa.mcintyre@ed.act.edu.au