

## Term 1 Overview 2017 Year 4

8 February 2017

Dear Families

Welcome to a busy and exciting first term.

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

### English

This year we are continuing with our Daily 5 literacy structure and introducing Reader's Workshop to year 4. Students will complete activities comprising of read to self, read to someone, listen to reading, work on writing and word work. Whilst the students are engaging in these independent tasks, teachers will be conferencing one on one with students or in small groups for reading, writing and spelling areas of need.

This term we will explore the social purpose of writing to inform followed by writing to entertain in the form of poetry.

### Mathematics

This term in mathematics our focus will be on place value up to 10,000, addition, subtraction of two digit numbers. We will also cover length as part of our strand focus. Students will measure and compare different lengths using a range of scaled instruments. Mental recall of basic number facts will be a part of our regular routine.

### Health/PE

Our focus in health this term will be the BRICK values as well as mindfulness which will become part of our everyday focus. Classroom teachers will be focusing on rotations and working collaboratively with our specialist PE teacher to further develop fundamental motor skills of kicking, passing and catching.

### Science

This term our science unit of work is called 'Beneath Our Feet'. This unit focuses on weathering and erosion and will include some interesting experiments.

### Geography

In geography, students will be looking at the environments of Africa and South America, in particular desert and rainforest. The unit is linked to our literacy unit on information reports where students will be examining an animal from either the desert or the rainforest environment.

## **STE(A)M**

STE(A)M is a program that is focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. This term, year 4 are buddying up with the Kindergarten unit where we will be engaging in open ended projects. This will be on Friday afternoons from 2:00pm-3:00pm.

## **Housekeeping**

You may have noticed some new posters around the school that describe Macgregor's expectations for different areas. These posters are part of our Wellbeing at Macgregor – also known as W@M. Look out in the school newsletter for more information as our implementation rollout continues.

## **Fruit break**

Each day, students will have fruit break during the morning session. This is an opportunity for the students to give their brains a boost to help them concentrate through until Break 1. Students will need to bring fresh fruit or vegetables, ideally cut up, which is easy for them to manage and eat in approximately 10 minutes.

## **'Get to Know You' Interviews**

Each year, we hold 'Get to Know You' interviews with parents and carers during the first few weeks of term 1. This year, our interviews will be held on Thursday 16 February 3:30pm-6:45pm in the school library. These interviews are a chance for you to touch base with teachers and let them know anything you feel will help us to educate your child. Please book in a time with your child's teacher tonight at the Welcome BBQ or call the front office to book an interview from 9:00am Thursday 9 February to 3:00pm Wednesday 15 February.

Finally, if you would like to meet with us to further discuss your child's learning, please don't hesitate to make an appointment. We can be contacted via the front office or email:

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Thank you. We look forward to a successful term of learning.

Robert Venables, Donna Lin and Simone Xirakis