

Term 3 Overview 2017 Year 3

28 July 2017

Dear Families

Welcome to another busy and exciting term. In this letter we will briefly explain some of the engaging programs that will be happening, as well as inform you of a few changes and housekeeping matters to support you and your child for the new term.

English

This term we will continue to use The Daily 5 to structure our balanced literacy program. The Daily 5 structure enables students to have choice about the order they complete planned and levelled learning activities. Students participate in whole class, short focused lessons before moving to complete their independent work. Students complete five activities a day comprising of Read to Self, Work on Writing, Read to Someone, Word Work, and Listen to Reading. Whilst the students are engaging in these independent tasks, teachers will be conferencing one on one with students or working in small groups for reading or other areas of need.

This term in writing, we will have a skills based focus. Students and teachers will be concentrating on selecting and using interesting words, creating complex sentences, applying spelling skills, punctuating correctly and adding detail. As children develop these skills, they will practise applying their new learning to a range of text types and writing for different social purposes.

Mathematics

This term in mathematics we will have a focus on graphing (interpreting visual graphs), capacity (correctly measuring L and ml), multiplication (I can recall 2x, 3x, 5x, 10x, multiplication facts), money (change to the nearest 5c) and fractions ($\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{5}$). To ensure each student is working at their own level, varying levels of mathematical questioning will be used during maths time. We will have an ongoing focus on mental computation strategies throughout the term. Many of these strategies are game based and can be shared at home so that you and your child can play together. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like further information.

Health

Our first health unit for the term is called 'Protective Behaviours'. This unit teaches the students about the early warning signs our bodies give us to identify unsafe or uncomfortable situations, as well as developing strategies to use. A large focus is on students developing their network of people who can help in a range of situations. Our second unit has a positive thinking focus, completing a Friendly Schools and Families unit and building our growth mindsets.

PE

Alongside Mr Heywood's specialist PE lessons this term, Year 3 will be working on the fundamental movement skills of throw, catch, strike and kick, in the class PE program.

Science

This term we will have a science focus for the first eight weeks of term. There has already been significant interest shown by our students in the first two weeks in our unit 'Day and Night'. Within this unit we have been investigating the following questions:

- What causes day and night?
- What effect do the sun, moon and earth have on each other?

History

We will be starting our history unit on Australian national emblems, celebrations and significant days towards the end of this term. This learning will continue into term 4.

Visual and Performing Arts

This term Ms Trull has returned from long service leave to take our classes for the specialist Arts program, focusing on performing arts.

Housekeeping

New eating times

We are now into the second week of our new bell and eating times. The children are enjoying the change in the newly structured playground areas with the engaging equipment, feeling satisfied and ready to return to class for eating. Now that eating time occurs after break one we are encouraging children to eat a little more at fruit break time to ensure they have the energy needed to make it through the morning.

Fruit break (healthy snack)

Each day at 10:00 am students will have fruit break. This is an opportunity for the students to give their brains a boost to help them concentrate through until eating time after break one. 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. Other food, such as chips, rollup bars, muesli bars or biscuits, need to be eaten at either break one or two eating times.

Specialist times

This term, our specialist classes (Arts, PE and Spanish) will be on Thursday afternoons. Please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear for PE.

Library

This term the Year 3 library sessions are on Mondays. At this time students will be able to borrow and return books, as well as investigate and build their skills in the use of our school library. Please be sure that they have a library bag each Monday.

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

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Kind regards,

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Year 3 Teachers