



Stage 3 Newsletter Term 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great working with your children throughout Semester One and the Stage 3 teachers thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet with you at Parent / Teacher interviews. We are all looking forward to another busy and exciting time for our students, particularly our 3-day excursion to Canberra in Week 7. We have several events this term, as always please keep your eye out for notes coming home and notifications on the School Bytes Parent Portal.

Curriculum focus areas for Term 3

In Term 3, students will continue to apply their understanding of the four problem solving strategies of spelling, with an overall focus on increasing their vocabulary through etymology as well as morphology.

In both reading and writing, students will continue to expand their vocabulary. Students will refine their fluency skills reading a range of persuasive texts including reviews and debates. As always, they will improve their comprehension skills through reading a variety of complex texts.

In persuasive writing, students will continue to apply previously learnt literacy techniques and devices, to enhance their writing. The focus on developing a method for constructing arguments, as well as their self-editing skills, ensuring they have used a variety of sentence structures and the correct punctuation to suit the needs of the text purposes.

As we introduce our students to the new Mathematics Syllabus, they are building on the skills they have already mastered. They are learning how to apply this knowledge to make generalisations and transfer their understanding to new situations. We will be focusing on developing increasingly sophisticated and refined mathematical understanding, fluency, communication, logical reasoning, analytical thought and problem-solving skills using Newman's Prompts and other learnt strategies. Mathematical vocabulary will be taught explicitly and used throughout all lessons. This will assist them in explaining or proving how they have achieved the answer. This term we will focus on multiplicative relations, time, area and mass.

In Geography this term, students investigate "Factors that Shape Places." In PDHPE, the concept being explored is "Change." The focus this year is how I make changes over time, as well as, how change occurs in others a. Drama will be our CAPA focus for the term. The winter PSSA competition will continue each Friday between 11:00am -1:15pm in Term 3. All other students will participate in school-based sport and other rotating activities during the same time period.

New Learning

As mentioned, students will continue to develop their fluency when reading a text. In Semester One, the focus continued to be on accuracy and rate. This semester the focus will be on the prosodic techniques.

Technique	Explanation
phrasing	Grouping words together into meaningful chunks
emphasis	Attention given to syllables/words or phrases
intonation	The rise and fall in pitch of the voice when speaking
volume	Vary volume LOUD or soft
tone	Happy, sad, full of fear let your tone, make it clear!
character or expert voice	Change your voice to show what a character/expert is like

pace	Pretend you're a rollercoaster. Sometimes you're creeping to the top, other times you're racing to the bottom
pronunciation	Saying words correctly
along with punctuation	a "!" may symbolise emphasis, tone or volume. - a "?" may prompt a change in pitch. - "... " may be used for character / expert voice.

Symbols will accompany each area to support students in recalling the techniques.

We would appreciate it if you could restock your child's pencil case.

We look forward to seeing you at either the Athletics carnival on **Wednesday, 31 July** or on open day for Education week on **Thursday 8 August**.

Regards,

The Stage 3 Teaching Team.