



Stage 2 Newsletter Term 1

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to 2020! We are very excited to have started a new year of learning in Stage 2. There is always lots happening in the Year 3 and 4 classrooms, so please keep your eye out for notes coming home and notifications on Schoolzine app. We have nine classes in Stage 2 this year and they have all settled into their class routines very quickly. Our class structure is as follows:

3B – Mrs Kelly Boulatsakos	3/4K – Mrs Melanie Keast
3D – Mr David Bath	4C – Miss Beth Cahill
3S – Mrs Shelly Kaur	4H – Miss Lisa Hankinson
3T – Miss Emma Thomson	4M – Mr Matt McKay
	4Y – Mrs Kim Yatras

Should you have any queries concerning your child's learning, please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance, followed by the Assistant Principal should further follow up be required. This term, Mrs Melanie Keast is Relieving Assistant Principal for Stage 2.

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 13 February –	School swimming carnival
Monday 24 & Tuesday 25 February –	Starr's Planetarium Incursion
Thursday 5 March –	Zone swimming carnival
Wednesday 25 March –	School disco
Thursday 2 April –	3-6 cross country carnival
Thursday 9 April –	School ANZAC service

Scripture:	Tuesdays 9:45am – 10:15am
PSSA and school sport:	Fridays 8:55am – 10:55am
3-6 Assemblies:	Thursdays 2:00pm (even weeks)

Equipment:

Thank you to those parents who have already sent in supplies for the start of the school year. Please ensure that you have included 2-3 whiteboards markers with your child's stationery equipment.

Key learning areas:

English

Students will participate in lessons involving all three English strands as follows:

Reading and Viewing - In guided reading, students will develop their understanding of comprehension strategies and how to apply these when reading texts. They will build skills in fluency and vocabulary whilst reading a variety of texts. In modelled lessons, students will be introduced to literature aligning with our 'Earth and Space' theme for Science.

Writing and representing – Our focus this term is developing sentence structure through explicit lessons in simple, compound and complex sentences, developing their use of grammatical features and their understanding of punctuation. Students will explore and compose a range of texts based on the teaching cycle of saturate, deconstruct, dabble and compose. Each student will be engaged in daily journal writing, to continue to develop their writing skills.

Spelling and phonics will be explicitly taught each morning. Students will explore the phonetic patterns in words and be engaged in all four areas of spelling knowledge – visual, phonemic, morphemic and etymological.

Speaking and Listening - Informal lessons on communicating, sharing ideas and participating in discussions will occur throughout all key learning areas. Students will be giving informal and formal presentations as part of their learning.

Mathematics

Throughout the year, students will learn about a range of key mathematical concepts. The focus of our maths lessons this term are shown below. This year we have introduced a 'Problem of the Day' to assist with students' problem-solving and mathematical reasoning abilities. Lessons are differentiated to promote a high level of understanding for all students.

Whole Number – Read, write and order numbers up to 4 digits. Counting forwards and backwards by 10s and 100s from any starting point.

Addition and Subtraction – using and recording a range of addition and subtraction strategies for two-, three- and four- digit numbers.

Multiplication and Division – Use and record a range of mental and informal written strategies for multiplication and division. Relate multiplication facts to their inverse division facts. Recall and use multiplication facts for twos, threes, fives and tens.

Length - Using metres, centimetres and millimetres to measure, compare, order and estimate lengths.

Two-dimensional space – identify and name the special quadrilaterals. Identify and describe irregular shapes.

Three-Dimensional space – identify, describe and compare features of prisms, pyramids, cylinders, cones and spheres.

Area – use square centimetres and square metres to measure and estimate areas.

Data – Collect and collate data, creating lists, tables and various graphs with one-to-one and many-to-one correspondence.

Science

This term, Stage 2 is studying 'Earth and Space' with an Inquiry Based learning approach. Students will explore the changes in the Earth's surface due to natural processes and human activity that occur over time, such as erosion of soil. Students will explore the effect of the interactions between the Earth and the Sun. They will investigate how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people use environmental changes to develop seasonal calendars.

PDHPE

Stage 2 students will be involved in either PSSA or school sport activities on Friday morning. Students will be developing their fundamental movement and team sports skills. In Personal Development and Health lessons with Mrs Crooks, students will learn about safe living, including road, water and sun safety.

Creative and Performing Arts

This term, students will be making a variety of artworks based around our subject matter of 'Earth and Space'. They will be exploring different mediums and artistic techniques, developing knowledge, skills and understanding in appreciating their own artworks and those of others.

Specialist programs

ICT with Mr Cairns– students will be exploring the world of coding. Students will be developing their understanding of how to build code to create animated game and movies.

Library with Mrs Tokatlian – students will continue to be encouraged to borrow a wide variety of books. During library lessons this term, they will be exploring a range of Australian literature.

Warm regards,

Mrs Keast, Mr Bath, Mrs Boulatsakos, Mrs Kaur, Miss Thomson, Mrs Yatras, Miss Cahill, Miss Hankinson and Mr McKay