



## ***Stage 2 Newsletter Term 4***

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back for the final term of 2020! This will be a wonderful term of learning, celebrating all of our achievements in this very unique year for all of us. Our Year 4 students will be busy completing their Stage 2 learning ready for their transition into Stage 3, while our Year 3 students will continue to extend themselves through the curriculum.

### **Equipment:**

As it is the start of a new term, some supplies need replenishing. We would appreciate if you could please send the following in with your child as soon as possible: 2 x lead pencils, 2 x whiteboard markers, 2 x glue sticks, 1 x paper towel roll, 1 x packet of wipes. Thank you.

### **Key learning areas:**

#### **English**

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

**Speaking and Listening** – students will work off feedback received from their speeches in Term 3 to continue developing their speaking skills. This will occur within a range of learning areas, through oral presentations and impromptu speaking opportunities. Students will examine elements that contribute to an effective oral presentation.

**Reading and Viewing** - In guided reading, students will continue developing their application of comprehension strategies when reading more complex texts, particularly making inferences and drawing conclusions. Through a study of multimodal texts, students will make comparisons between styles of texts and their impact on audience.

**Writing and representing** – Students will compare and contrast books of different purposes and media. They will look at how authors create a message through choice of language features, visual and other elements. Students will compose texts across a range of purposes so that they can explore how vocabulary is impacted by purpose and style of text.

In phonics and spelling our term focus will be morphemes and etymology, giving the students a deeper understanding of the origins and meanings of words and word families.

#### **Mathematics**

The focus of our maths lessons this term are shown below. All lessons are differentiated to promote a high level of understanding for all students.

**Fractions and Decimals** – making connections between fraction and decimal notation.

**Patterns and algebra** – investigating use of odd and even numbers with a link to multiplication and division.

**Addition and Subtraction** - Solve word problems, including those involving money

**Problem solving** – multi-step word problems involving a variety of operations.

**Three-dimensional space** - Sketch three-dimensional objects from different views. Interpret and make drawings of objects on isometric grid paper

**Position** - Interpret legends and directions on maps.

**Time** - Read and interpret simple timetables, timelines and calendars.

**Mass** - Use kilograms and grams to measure and compare masses using a scaled instrument. Record masses using the abbreviations kg and g.

## **Science and STEM**

This Term, students will be studying 'Physical World' through an Inquiry Based Learning model. This unit will focus on light, heat and electrical energy and how contact forces affect the behavior of objects. They will explore how energy and forces are used in different products and systems. Scientific exploration will occur through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) activities and investigations that will develop students' creative and critical thinking skills, along with their design process capabilities.

## **PE and Sport**

Stage 2 students will be involved in class sport activities each week that will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills through a game-sense approach to learning. They will explore different approaches to moving their body to effectively participate in games. Students will develop their ability to use strategic thinking and communication to work collaboratively and inclusively with peers to improve game performance.

## **Creative and Performing Arts**

This term, Stage 2 students will create artworks informed by their investigations of the world as subject matter, use of expressive forms, and consideration of the audience for their works. They will explore why artists make particular artworks and why different interpretations of subject matter are possible.

## **Specialist programs**

**PDHPE with Mrs Crooks** - This term students will describe physical changes that they may experience now or in the future, recognising that as they get older how they think and feel about themselves and differing situations may change. During this time they will begin to develop effective skills for managing physical and emotional challenges such as talking to a trusted adult. Whilst learning about protective strategies, students are given the opportunity to analyse situations, to identify feelings, and to explore alternative courses of action and their consequences.

**Library with Mrs Tokatlian** – In Library students will continue appreciation of the Book Week shortlisted books, choosing their favourite and expressing reasons for their preference before the winner is actually announced in Week 2. For the remainder of the term both Year 3 and 4 will be acquiring information skills relevant to a research topic, including following the Information Search Process, using Orbit to locate resources, familiarising with the layout and use of encyclopedia, practising skimming and scanning for relevant information, and understanding how web searches work.

**ICT with Mr Cairns** – In Technology lessons, students will continue to build on the computer science and ICT skills they have been developing by applying Design Thinking skills using Tynker and Dash robotics. Students will also become familiar with virtual robotic simulators for learning computational thinking. Finally, they will learn how to collaborate on a helperbot challenge.

## **Homework**

Stage 2 students will continue to receive their homework on a fortnightly grid. The activities selected consolidate English and Mathematics concepts covered in class, as well as Inquiry concepts, Creative tasks and Community tasks. This term we will once again be utilising Google Classrooms for students to access some homework activities.

We are looking forward to a fulfilling term ahead as we complete our year of learning with your child. As always, please contact your child's classroom teacher in the first instance if you have any questions or concerns. Following that, please contact Mrs Melanie Keast, Stage 2 Assistant Principal (rel.).

Warm regards,

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