Welcome back to term 3. We hope you have enjoyed the holidays and are ready for another term of learning and exciting events.

Parent Teacher Interviews went smoothly last term, with both parents and teachers working together to discuss a range of activities to help our students meet their goals for this term. If you were unable to attend the mid term interviews, please contact your child’s classroom teacher to make a suitable time.

Our whole school Multicultural Food Day was a great success last term. Students enjoyed tasting a wide variety of foods from other cultures. Thank you to all families for your yummy food.

Education Week gave students the opportunity to show parents different aspects of our inquiry topic on “Australian’s: Who Are We? Students work has been displayed in the 3/4 area.

This term our SCIENCE based Inquiry Topic is on “All Is Not What It Seems”. Students will have the opportunity to explore all aspects of solids, liquids and gases in our everyday lives. Students will also attend an incursion titled ‘Silly Science’ on August 27th.

Students from 3-6 will attend Camp Baanya Biami. Students will be actively involved in a number of activities with a few surprises awaiting the students once they reach the campsite.

Last week, students participated in the construction and filming of our new raingarden in the Frog Pond enclosure. This was made possible through the Mobil Bright Futures Education Grant. Some students were also involved in a presentation to visitors from Mobil and other schools. All students will be discussing the environmental benefits the raingardens will bring to our whole school community.

Students will participate in a footy clinic run by the Western Bulldogs in partnership with pre-service teachers from Victoria University.

Inquiry Topics for Term 3
“All Is Not What It Seems”

This term grades 3 and 4 students will be looking at the SCIENCE topic of “All Is Not What It Seems”.

Major Topic Understandings
Students use a scientific approach, including posing questions, predicting, observing, recording and classifying, to investigate the nature of solids, liquids and gases, and changes in state. They plan, design, conduct and report upon experiments which attempt to answer their own questions about non-living things.

Focus Questions
What are the non-living states of matter?
How do the changes in matter affect us in our everyday lives?
What are the reversible/irreversible changes in states of matter?
Why is it difficult to classify some states of matter?
Why do we conduct a scientific approach to investigate the nature of states of matter?

Inquiry Unit
“Silly Science” Incursion

In READING and VIEWING, students will be exploring comprehension strategies including Text Structures and Features, Questioning and Clarifying. They will also be discovering the text structures and features of Procedural and Information Texts.

In WRITING, students will continue to investigate Procedural and Information texts while recording ideas in their Writers’ Notebooks. They will investigate and record procedural texts and factual texts in line with our SCIENCE based topic, “All Is Not What It Seem”. Students will continue to learn their Oxford Words and words taken from their own personal writing and our inquiry topic. Spelling strategies will be highlighted through investigations and everyday learning.

Mathematics

Students will be further developing their knowledge in the following strands: Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability.

In NUMBER & ALGEBRA students will be revising addition and subtraction strategies.

In MEASUREMENT & GEOMETRY, students will develop their skills in temperature, time, calendar, area and perimeter.

In STATISTICS & PROBABILITY students will be recording and reading data collected from science experiments. Student will hypothesise, discuss and analyse the results obtained from different science experiments they will be involved in.

Students will continue to develop their Problem Solving Strategies knowledge while completing Open Ended Tasks. They will be extending their Number and Place Value skills by recording their findings in different ways and reflecting in their Dictionaries and Journals.

Inquiry Unit
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Parent Information

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**Visual Arts**

To begin Term 3, the children will complete their papier mache bowls by painting them in colours and patterns of their choice. The children will gain a greater understanding of specific elements and styles of artwork. They will view different art forms from different cultures and create artworks relating to these. They will be encouraged to compare the artworks and discuss using appropriate arts language. To coincide with Book Week and Literacy / Numeracy Week, a selection of books will be chosen to gain inspiration for art works later in the term. The children will hear the stories, view the illustrations and create both 2 and 3-Dimensional artworks relating to these stories.

**Music and Performing Arts**

During term three in Music & Performing Arts, grade 3/4 students will focus on exploring and participating in Dance and movement. This will prepare students for their upcoming term four-school concert performance. Students will study different dance styles, learn basic steps and routines as part of this unit. There will be a focus on developing and building co-ordination, timing, practice and performance. This will be done through participating in class routines, warm ups, small groups and individually. Students will work together to develop and rehearse a performance, which will be assessed at the end of term.

**Sustainability**

This year ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’ will be held on Friday July 26th. ANPS has been an active participant in the ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’ every year for the last 10 years, with all students being involved in planting a tree, helping to improve our school’s environment. This year ANPS has designated the day an ‘Environmental Day’ as part of our school’s commitment to the environment and sustainability and in support of ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’. Throughout the day, all students will be given the opportunity to plant a native tree in their grade’s designated area in the school’s gardens. Grade 5/6 students will provide the rest of the school with support and guidance in planting and caring for trees. During the day, students will participate in activities with an Environmental focus. These Environmental activities will assist in the development of the students’ knowledge and appreciation of trees as a sustainable resource and the important role that trees have on our planet.

In support of our ‘Environmental Day’ (Friday July 26th) ANPS will be having a ‘Rubbish Free Day’. We request that all parents support this event by ensuring that children’s ‘snack and lunch’ are packed in containers or materials which can either be recycled or reused with minimal or no rubbish going into the school bins. It is hoped that the ‘Environmental Day’ will assist students in gaining a greater understanding and connection with their environment and the need to care for it.

On Thursday the 18th of July (Week 1) the grade 3/4 students were involved in the construction of a “Rain Garden” within the frog pond area to collect and filter storm water before the water is released into the frog pond. The rain garden was made possible through the generous funding we received from the 2012 MOBIL Bright Futures Education Grant.

During Cool Australia Enviro Week to be held on 25th – 31st August, ANPS students will join thousands of other students across Australia in taking action and raising awareness for a sustainable future. Students will be asked to take up a “Green Challenge”, i.e. “Green thumb, waste warrior, traveller” etc, in an effort to highlight the need for responsible environmental actions and behaviors.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Term three is going to be an exciting term for students from grades 3/4; they will have the opportunity to participate in Lacrosse and Hockey themed sequences of lessons. The skills in focus will be dribbling and trapping while coordinating movement during Hockey based lessons and passing and catching while playing Lacrosse. The students will have the opportunity to participate in skills based lessons then will use these skills during modified match play during their lesson time. Along with our Hockey and Lacrosse theme there will be a selection of grade 3/4 students training for the upcoming Altona District Athletics Carnival in September. All grade 3/4 students will also have the opportunity to participate in the grade 3/4 sport program which will be facilitated by their classroom teachers.

**Computers**

Throughout term three the grade 3/4 students will have the opportunity to create stop motion animation videos using the program called Monkey Jam. The stop motion videos are really easy to make and the effect is very impressive. Students will spend time brainstorming their ideas and will create a storyboard before the capturing can begin. Using a digital camera or web cam the students will take a number of pictures and import them into Monkey Jam. The students will then be able to make adjustments to the settings so when viewed the static objects look like it is moving. Students will be able to add sound to their animation and they will have the opportunity to be as creative as they like. At the end of term each class will be able to share their creations on the interactive white board.