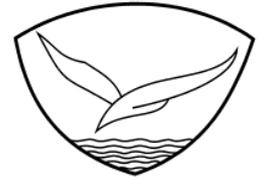


GRADE 3/4 NEWSLETTER



"Consider Others"

Important Dates

DATE	EVENT
22/2/2017	Parent Information Session
13/3/2017	Labour Day Holiday
17/3/2017	Harmony Day

Introduction

Welcome back to our first term in 2017. We trust that you had a safe and enjoyable holiday with your family and friends.

It is pleasing to see the enthusiasm with which students have commenced the year. Programs have begun smoothly, beginning of the year testing is being carried out, along with activities to establish classroom routines and expectations.

Parent Information

Term one is a Sun Smart term and students are expected to wear their school hats. If you are placing sunscreen on your child please make sure it is done so at home. Please encourage your child to bring bottled water to school, as this will improve their concentration as the weather warms up.

Parent Teacher Sharing/Information sessions will be conducted on the 22nd of February. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and discuss the academic and personal needs of your child.

Homework will be handed out each FRIDAY and we ask that parents encourage their children to complete homework tasks to their best ability and return it on the WEDNESDAY.

Reading is an important part of homework and all children are expected to read each night. Reading Log Books need to be completed by the students every day.

Please ensure your child's clothing, hats and belongings are all labeled so they can be returned if misplaced.

If your child is absent or late to school, a note or phone call explaining your child's absence is required.



Curriculum Overview

English

This term students will begin by setting up the classroom library and revising the Five Finger Rule by selecting Just Right Books for Independent Reading. Students will continue to use the comprehension strategies to explore different genres of texts and set goals to improve their reading skills. They are recording their reading experiences in their reading journals.

In writing, students are creating and personalising their own Writers' Notebook. Students will learn to expand ideas freely and to implement effective writing strategies into their own narrative writing. They will continue to develop their understandings of spelling patterns, grammar and punctuation cues. Students will make generalisations in these areas and place their findings on classroom literacy walls for further reference.

Mathematics

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

Students will increase their knowledge and understanding of Number and Place Value, addition, subtraction and 2D shapes through activities and Open-Ended tasks. Students will record their findings in a variety of ways using the Problem Solving Strategies.

Students will explain their understandings and findings through reflective maths journals and maths dictionaries.

Teachers and students will discuss mathematical vocabulary for each strand and decide on a common mathematical definition to be placed on the numeracy wall for future reference alongside student examples.

In both English and Maths, teachers continue to confer and set goals with students to encourage responsibility of students own learning.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 45 \times 32 \\
 40 \times 30 = 1200 \\
 40 \times 2 = 80 \\
 5 \times 30 = 150 \\
 5 \times 2 = 10 \\
 \hline
 1440
 \end{array}$$

Inquiry Unit

Inquiry Topics for Term 1

"Relationships, Values & Learning."

MAJOR TOPIC UNDERSTANDINGS:

Our values and beliefs affect our self-worth and our relationships with others.

FOCUS QUESTIONS:

- What are values and beliefs?
- How do my values and beliefs affect my self-worth and my ability to develop relationships?
- How do values impact on our health? (physically, mentally, emotionally and socially)
- Why do our values and beliefs affect our personal behavior and relationships with others?

As part of the Inquiry topic, the children will participate in 6 relaxation sessions to help promote improved focus, concentration and memory.

Students will also participate in activities presented by Harold and the Life Education Van. The grade 3/4 students will focus on relationship and friendship issues.



The 3/4 students will also participate in Friday sport sessions beginning with a series of soccer clinics.

We look forward to your continued support.

Many thanks from the Grade 3/4 Team.
 Chris Anastasiou (room 3)
 Jenny Siphthorp (room 4)
 Sara Clark (room 5)
 Rob Avolino and Libby Blunt (ES Staff)