



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Room 31 Newsletter

Term 2 2017



Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 2. The children have all settled into Year 3/4 life well. We have appreciated your support and partnership during Term 1 and we are looking forward to working together again this term.

The children will be involved in a number of exciting programs throughout the term. On Thursday 8th June our class will take part in an excursion to the Marine Discovery Centre at the Star of the Sea School, Henley Beach. In week 5 we will have Culture Day where we celebrate the cultural backgrounds of the students in our class and learn about countries, geographical points of interest, foods and customs. NAPLAN testing for Year 3 students will take place each morning from 9th to 11th May in Week 2.

The Premier's Reading Challenge is well under way and it is great to report that several students are well advanced in successfully completing the challenge of reading twelve selected books. Please remind your child that oral and silent reading is a homework requirement each night.

School commences at 8:40am each day. If students are late in arriving at school they need to collect a late pass from the office to present to their class teacher. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if the school has not been notified prior to 10am.

Below we have outlined the areas of learning, homework requirements, special programs and opportunities for parent participation in the classroom.

Literacy

ENGLISH

SPELLING

Words to learn for Spelling are taken home in the School Diary on Mondays. The focus is on vocabulary development through a variety of spelling activities including syllabification, dictionary usage, sentence construction, word building, alphabetical order and using words in context.

READING

- Children read orally to School Support staff, parental volunteers, peers and teachers at school and are required to read for five minutes aloud and at least ten minutes silently each night for homework.
- Reading comprehension and Cloze activities.
- Interpretive reading – understanding time lines, flow charts, graphs, maps, diagrams and procedural texts.



What's on this term

Literacy	1/2
Numeracy	2
The Arts	2
Health and PE	2
Science	2
History / Geography	2
Homework	2

Special Dates to Remember

- Tuesday 9th May
NAPLAN begins (Year 3)
- Thursday 18th May
School Photographs
- Friday 19th May
School Colour Run
- Week 5 Reconciliation
Week and Culture Day
- Wednesday 8th June
Marine Discovery Centre
excursion
- Monday 12th June
Queen's Birthday Holiday
- Tuesday 13th June
PUPIL FREE DAY
- Wednesday 5th July
Reports sent home
- Friday 7th July
Last day of term
Early Dismissal 2pm

WRITING

- Report writing
- Persuasive Text writing
- Book Reviews
- Recounts, experiential writing, Narratives
- Research note taking
- Poetry
- Grammar — capital letters, full stops, paragraphing
- Handwriting – letter formation, linking, creative lettering techniques



SPEAKING

All students will have the opportunity to speak to the class through oral presentations, small group discussions and class meetings.

Numeracy



Number and Algebra

- Expanded Notation– to millions
- Rounding to tens / hundreds
- Fractions - models, symbols, as division, mixed nos, improper, equivalent
- Money - Australian currency, change, simple budgets

Measurement and Geometry

- Area and volume – regular and irregular shapes – informal means
- Time – am / pm and simple time problems
- 2D shapes – description and comparisons of shapes, perimeter, tessellations
- 3D objects, prisms, pyramids

The Arts

Visual Arts: Students will continue their unit on South Australian artists. They will use sketches to develop their ideas and further their skills in using acrylic paint to complete their paintings before preparing an exhibition to present their work.

This term in **music** with Ms Yates, students will be focussing on pitch. They will look at pitch direction, use hand signs to show pitch and play melodies on xylophones. They will then begin learning about the musical stave and treble clef in preparation for our recorder program in term 3. Throughout the term, students will also look at composition and will spend time creating their own music.

In **drama**, students will continue to explore the different elements of a character. They will be using their voice, body language, posture and actions to create characters which they will then apply to various settings, times and places.



Health /Physical Education

HEALTH

With Mr Kite in term 2 students will learn about the importance of personal hygiene and how it affects an individual's health and wellbeing. Students will also explore the benefits of physical activity and how to better get along and cooperate with others.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Physical Education with Mr Kite, lessons will focus on cooperative games, football and basketball. Students will learn and develop skills in passing, ball movement, ball control and goal scoring.



PE lessons will be on Fridays so your child will need to wear appropriate sports shoes and clothing to help them to fully participate in these lessons.

Science / Technology

In Biological Science the students will explore a range of flowering plants. They will gain an understanding of pollination, germination, stages in a plant's life cycle and the environmental conditions needed for growth.



During the Marine Discovery excursion the students will participate in science activities which will further their understanding of marine life, ecosystems and biodiversity.

In Technology the students will continue their learning about gears in simple machines. They will develop their design techniques as they complete their projects.

Following this the students will investigate the use of plants as a food source in modern and traditional Australian societies. This learning will support the science investigations

History / Geography

This term we will be working on a unit of study related to coastal environments and marine conservation. Our excursion will support and reinforce their learning in marine studies. Furthermore, students will use computers, laptops, iPads, books and posters to research relevant information about this unit of work.



Homework

Our Homework for this term includes Spelling word list study and a Maths and Reading worksheet.

This work will be marked at school on the Monday of each week. Home Reading/library books for oral/ and silent reading will also be brought home each night with the School Diary. It is recommended that children spend a maximum 15-20 minutes per night with homework activities.



As you can see we are going to be very busy throughout the term. We look forward to your continued support and please feel welcome to discuss your child's learning achievements, needs or class events.

David Muldoon and Melissa Iiko

Year 3/4 Class Teachers