

### Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday. It is hard to believe we only have 8 school weeks left together. I was able to spend lots of time in the garden during the first week. Next year I am going to buy lots of bulbs!

### English

#### Writing

It has been wonderful to see many of the students now have an extensive vocabulary to draw on when writing their narratives, persuasive texts, recounts and reports. If you look on the wall where the cupboards are you will see our word wall. Students are encouraged to write words to assist them in the future. It is easily accessible. I have also encouraged each student to become familiar with using their dictionary.

Last term we introduced Book Making into our writing program. We brainstormed all of the different components of books. It was great to see that we even had glossaries and diagrams included. As part of the mini lesson I read a book which demonstrates a part of grammar which I would encourage the students to incorporate into their books. We have concentrated on the importance of capitals, finger spaces, full stops, question marks and quotation marks. The class particularly liked the onomatopoeia - where the word looks like it sounds. I was so impressed with the way the students were engaged in the process. They took such pride in their books.

Rather than do a recount of their holidays I suggested they make a book about their October holiday. We only had one session on Monday and it was wonderful to see how much more information they have shared.

#### Spelling

We will continue with our spelling contracts. This time I have suggested in preparation for Year 3 that they can put 7 words from their Jolly Grammar list into alphabetical order. They LOVE a challenge. I have been amazed at the complexity of the words they are now able to spell. Some students who have completed the tasks on their contract have been exploring synonyms and antonyms. This has enabled them to practise using the dictionary and thesaurus.

#### Reading

Please write a comment in the Reading Diary so that I know each time your child has read at home.

While I am listening to the students read in the mornings, I often challenge the students to record as many verbs, nouns or adjectives related to a topic that they can. On the second day back I asked them to record as many verbs related to their holidays that they could think of. Here is a small sample of their contributions; sketching, showering, mowing, hugging, vacuuming, cartwheeling and hiking. It really makes them think and consolidates their understanding of the different parts of grammar.

On Wednesdays we do Guided Reading where the students work in small groups with an adult. It has been wonderful to see the groups working so co-operatively together. I have certainly noticed a huge difference in the level of confidence the students now exhibit, compared to the beginning of the year.

#### Handwriting

We continue to have our handwriting lessons. The students particularly enjoy all of the different activities which support the correct formation of the letters.

### Mathematics

The students will have many opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of number using a wide variety of games from the *Big Ideas in Number* program. We will continue to consolidate their

### What's on this term

The remaining assemblies will be held on Thursdays in Weeks 4, 6, and 9

#### Week 2

#### Sports Day

Thursday 22nd October

#### Pupil Free Day

Friday 23rd October

#### Week 3

#### Dental 4 Schools Program

Monday 26th October

#### Week 4

#### Music Count us In

Thursday 5th November

#### Week 5

#### No Pen Day

Tuesday 10th November

#### Remembrance Day

Wednesday 11th November

#### Week 8

#### Pop Night

More details to follow

#### Week 9

#### Casual Day with gold coin donation

Wednesday 9th December

#### Class visits for 2021

#### Reports go home

Thursday 10th December

#### End of Term 3

#### Early dismissal 2:00pm

Friday 10th December

In 2021, Term 1 Commences  
Wednesday 27th January



knowledge with *Trust the Count*. The 4 operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division will be explored in greater depth as part of *Place Value*.

In conjunction with the Geography theme the students will have opportunities to make their own maps.

Students will have the opportunity to make different money amounts using different combinations of Australian money. The aim is to enable them to have a greater understanding about financial maths.

We will also incorporate our Mathematical knowledge into creative art work.

Towards the end of the term we will be reviewing the year's work through the Christmas theme.



### Geography

We will continue to work on the concept that people are connected to many places. The students looked at a world map during Term 3 and were able to see that the earth is made up of large areas of land and water. I know lots of students have entertained their families with the Seven Continents Song.

There will be opportunities for the students to look more deeply into natural, constructed and managed environments.

### Science

Last term we had so much fun doing Push and Pull. This term we will commence our unit of work on 'water' which is essential to life. As humans, we not only drink water, we also use it for cooking, hygiene, recreation and agriculture. Australia is a dry continent with an expanding population, and how we use water has become increasingly important. Water is a precious resource. The Water Works unit is an ideal way to link science with literacy in the classroom. This unit provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of, and appreciation for, a precious natural resource. Through investigations, students will explore how water is used, where water comes from and how to use it responsibly.



### The Arts

This term in Music, students will continue learning the Music Count Us In song ready for our whole school celebration day in Week 4. They will explore the different sounds that can be made using instruments, body percussion and their voices, and use these sounds to create their own compositions and ostinato patterns. They will participate in folk dancing, focussing on spatial relationships and rhythm.

In Drama, students will participate in improvisation games and activities where they use the voice, movement and expression skills that they have been developing throughout the year.

**Belinda Mentha - Music / Drama specialist teacher**

### AUSLAN

As we move towards the end of the year we will be working on our individual Auslan goals. Some children have wanted to focus on the Auslan alphabet, others the colours or some have wanted to work on other areas. The students will be allowed some time to focus on achieving success in their own preferred areas. We will also be looking a little bit more on Deaf culture and protocols as well as revising topics covered throughout the year.

We will be learning new songs in Auslan (which they have loved doing all year) and some new ways of recording student understanding.

**Kylie Nielsen - Specialist AUSLAN teacher**

### Health and Physical Development

The students will examine messages related to health decisions and describe how to keep themselves and others healthy, safe and physically active. They will be able to identify areas where they can be active and describe how their body reacts to different physical activities.

In PE sessions the students will have opportunities to do both invasion games and net/wall games. Invasion games are any activity involving 2 or more teams with the objective being to invade the opponents' section of the field/court in order to score goals or points. This includes sports such as soccer, netball, AFL, Rugby and European Handball. Net/Wall games are activities that consist of 2 or more teams creating and maintaining a rally within a controlled court space, attempting to strike an object into the opponent's court space in a position to win a point. This includes sports such as volleyball, spikeball, tennis and badminton.

**Josh Parsons Health / P.E. Specialist teacher**

### Digital Technologies

As part of an integrated curriculum opportunity students will design their own covers for their Christmas books.

### Arts

This term the students will design and make their own wall hangings using coarsely woven material, wool and needles. You will have a wonderful surprise!

### Absences

It is very important that your child is on time at the beginning of the day. Some of our most important learning routines and literacy occurs first thing in the morning. If you are late please ensure that your child has a late pass which is issued by the front office staff. An SMS will be sent to parents/caregivers if the school has not been notified **prior to 10:00am**.

### A special note regarding Sports Day and POP Night:

**Due to COVID restrictions, our families are unfortunately unable to attend our Sports Day. Also due to the current social distancing and COVID recommendations, details about our POP event are not finalised. Everyone will be provided with up to date information as the event gets closer.**

If you would like to speak with me about any issues, I am available before and after school.

**Kind regards**

**Karen Kompo - Class Teacher**

