



25 July 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Thank you for your support in Semester 1. We are off and away from the beginning of Term 3 with another busy term ahead of us.

Homework Term 3

The children will begin preparing their speeches in class for the Public School Competition that will take place during Term 3. Students will also have the chance to participate in the Premiers Spelling Bee; word lists came home at the end of Term 2. See your class teacher if you did not receive or have lost your set.

We encourage you to support your child to work to their full potential and present quality work. If for any reason your child is having difficulties with the homework please speak with your class teacher.

For students to gain the maximum potential from their homework, please:

- Ensure all **homework** is completed promptly, neatly and returned on time. This will enable you and your child to work out an **appropriate schedule** that does not encourage them to leave work until the last minute.
- Ensure that your child has time and space to complete their homework.
- Ensure your child's out of school schedule allows them to balance homework expectations and out of school activities.
- Encourage your child to **read every night**.

We ask all parents to continue to monitor and praise their children when completing their homework and **please sign their Reading Log book or Diary and their Homework on a daily basis.**

English Focus

Writing: Informative (explanations, information reports & procedures) and Persuasive literature. Students will engage with a variety of texts, producing their own pieces of writing.

Talking and Listening: Telling and Re-telling as well as short prepared and impromptu speeches in preparation for the Public Speaking Competition.

Reading: Guided reading groups will continue in Term 3. The focus on reading will be to develop a range of effective comprehension strategies and an understanding of grammar and punctuation.

Lexile Readers: Lexile Readers compliment the Home Reading program for students who are on reading level 29 and above. Lexile books borrowed from the library match reader ability and interests.

Maths Focus

Students will continue to focus on the quick recall of **number facts**.

In numeracy, Stage 2 students will work towards knowing all **addition and subtraction number facts to 100**. They will also work on the quick recall of **all multiplication tables**.

Students in Stage 2 must practise their **speed and fluency in mental computation** of these basic number facts each night. The other areas of focus in Maths are Working Mathematically and problem solving, Statistics and Probability and Measurement.



HSIE

Year 3 – Places are Similar and Different

Students examine natural and human features of Australia and the diverse characteristics of Australia's neighbouring countries. They explore the different climates, settlement patterns and demographic characteristics of places and use this information to imagine what it would be like to live in different places. Students consider how people's perceptions of places are the basis for actions to protect places and environments.

Year 4 – The Earth's Environment

Students explore the climate, natural vegetation and native animals of places in Australia. They examine the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources to the environment, animals and people and learn about the ways people value environments, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Students identify sustainable practices and recognise that there are differing views on how sustainability can be achieved.

Science and Technology/STEM

STEM education is the learning of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in an interdisciplinary or integrated approach. Students gain and apply knowledge, deepen their understanding and develop creative and critical thinking skills within an authentic context. In this case, the students will be engaged in inquiry and project-based learning.

Year 3 – Structures/STEM

In the **Structures** unit, students investigate the relationship between the purpose of built environments and the features required to meet that purpose. Students investigate current structures in use and identify an area at school that needs a structure built. They explore the need, area and size requirements, then research and test suitable materials for their idea. Students write a design brief, draft a suitable design and construct a 3D model using available materials.

Year 4 – Space/STEM

In the **Space** unit, students learn about our solar system, with a focus on how different phenomena in space affect our lives. Students learn about the orbital and rotational movement of the Earth and moon and investigate how these movements define our years, seasons, days, nights and tides. Students investigate gravity and explore how this force is different on the Earth, moon and other planets. Finally, students use ICT to demonstrate their understanding of one of these concepts and explain how this affects our lives on Earth.

Year 3 Recorder

Year 3 students need to practise their recorder for **10 minutes every night** and bring their recorder in for their Recorder lessons.

Stage 2 Assembly

Stage 2 Assemblies will continue to be held fortnightly (odd weeks) on Tuesdays at 2:20pm beginning on 7th August.



Important Dates:

Please keep updated via Skoolbag for possible changes, additions and further details. Separate notes will be sent home via Care Monkey where possible closer to the date of each event.

What	Grade	Details
Winter PSSA & School Sport Begins	3 - 6	Friday 27 th July (week 1)
ICAS - English International Competitions and Assessments for Schools - (UNSW Tests)	2 - 6	Tuesday 31 st July (week 2)
Year 4 – NIDA Performance	4	Tuesday 31 st July @ 11am (week 2)
Opportunity Class (OC) Test –	Select Y4 students	Wednesday 1 st August (week 2) (Completed outside of school.)
Year 3 Excursion – 78 Storey Treehouse	3	Tuesday 7 th August (week 3)
Education Week – Assembly and Open Classrooms	K - 6	Wednesday 8 th August (week 3)
Athletics Carnival - E.S Marks	K - 6	Monday 13 th August (week 4)
ICAS - Maths International Competitions and Assessments for Schools - (UNSW Tests)	2 - 6	Tuesday 14 th August (week 4)
Book Week – Author Talk	3 - 6	Monday 20 th August (week 5)
Winter PSSA & School Sport Ends	3 - 6	Friday 31 st August (week 6)
Road Safety Day	K - 6	Tuesday 4 th September (week 7)
Great Aussie Bush Camp	4	Thursday 20 th September – Friday 21 st September (week 9)