



STAGE 2 UPDATE- TERM 3, 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for your support in Semester 1. Your efforts in helping your child to learn at home were tremendous, and we greatly appreciate the flexibility and persistence that was required in order to make this happen. The Stage 2 teachers were delighted when all students were able to return to the classroom and we are hoping that Semester 2 brings an even greater sense of normality for everyone.

Diary Dates

The following key dates pertain to upcoming events for Stage 2 students. We will endeavour to keep you updated with any variations via Skoolbag, Operoo and Seesaw.

Little Scribe Writing Festival

Monday 27th- Friday 31st July

ICAS Tests

English (in class)- Monday 24th (Year 4) & Tuesday 25th August (Year 3)

Maths (in class)- Tuesday 1st (Year 3) & Wednesday 2nd September (Year 4)

Opportunity Class Placement Test (select Year 4 students)

Wednesday 16th September

Stage 2 Assembly

Will take place in class during Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. A photo of the award winners each fortnight will be posted to Seesaw.

N.B: Year 4 Camp has been postponed until Term 4 (Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th November)

Homework for Term 3

There are a few changes to homework this term. Homework will now be issued *weekly* to students, with students working through set tasks in Reading, Spelling and Maths. Homework tasks will be *distributed via Google Classroom*, in a similar fashion to the distribution of work during Home Learning. If access to this learning is an issue for your family, please contact your classroom teacher for alternate arrangements.

Homework will continue to be collected on a Friday. We ask all parents to monitor the completion of homework, supporting your child to work to their full potential and present quality work. *Please sign your child's Reading Log book (Year 3) or diary (Year 4) on a weekly basis.*

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

- Ensure sufficient time and space is given to support your child to complete their homework;
- Ensure your child's out of school schedule allows them to focus on homework and places an emphasis on the academic needs of your child;
- Encourage your child to talk to their teacher if they have questions or need help;
- Encourage your child to read every night.

Key Learning Areas

English:

Students will develop their skills in persuasive writing this term, with a focus on persuading through the use of strong ideas and supporting ideas with examples and evidence. Grammar and language skill development will be linked to writing, helping students to improve the structure and cohesion of their written work. During Reading Groups, students will further improve their comprehension of texts by applying strategies such as skimming and scanning, identifying fact or opinion and recognising cause and effect.

Mathematics:

Stage 2 students will continue to develop their skills and strategies in the use of all four number operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) as well as their understanding of the value of whole numbers. In addition to this, Year 3 students will focus on two-dimensional space, fractions and decimals,

data and position. Year 4 Maths Groups will resume this term, with learning centred around time, patterns and algebra, chance and mass.

Geography:

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:

Year 3- Physical World

In this unit, students will explore how contact and non-contact forces can cause changes in an object's motion. Guided by the scenario of Luna Park opening a new location in Randwick, students will classify all forces as a push or a pull, learn about friction and explore how gravity and magnetism can affect objects without touching them. Students will demonstrate their understanding of forces by designing and building a new amusement park ride for Luna Park.

Year 4- Earth & Space

In this unit, students will investigate changes to the Earth's surface over time as a result of natural processes and human activity. As part of this, they will learn about characteristics of soil, types of rocks and investigate why erosion occurs and how it can be managed. Students will also explore the interactions between the Sun and the Earth, including how the Earth's rotation on its axis causes regular changes.

Personal Development/Health/Physical Education (PDHPE):

Year 3- Personal Choices affect our Health/Netball

In Personal Development & Health lessons, Year 3 students will consider the contextual factors influencing personal choices and decisions around health and safety. They will begin to recognise their responsibility to contribute to a healthy, safe and active environment for themselves and others. In Physical Education lessons, students will learn and develop the skills and movements required to play netball. They will explore and practise different techniques for passing and shooting for goal.

Year 4- Food & Fitness/Cricket/Lifeskills

In the 'Food & Fitness' unit, Year 4 students will develop an informed opinion on the benefits of healthy eating and physical activity through research and accessing reliable sources of information. In Physical Education lessons, Year 4 will develop their skills in striking, throwing and catching as they learn the skills required to play cricket.

Both Year 3 and Year 4 will participate in an RPSSA Competition on Fridays, our very own round-robin competition to replace the inter-school PSSA competition in Term 3. Year 4 will participate from 10-11am and Year 3 from 11:40am- 12:40pm.

Year 3 and 4 students will also participate in the Peer Support program. This program is run by Year 6 peer support leaders who deliver lessons that focus on building positive relationships and using the school Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) focus.

Creative Arts:

Year 3- Dance

In this unit, students will learn foundational dance movements and use these movements to choreograph their own simple sequences. They will also develop an understanding of how dance can communicate ideas or feelings in order to be able to appreciate their own dances and those of others.

Year 3- Recorder

Year 3 students will resume Recorder lessons where they will learn music theory, including basic symbols of notation and the notes on the treble clef. They need to practise their recorder for 10 minutes every night and bring their recorder in on the day stipulated by their class teacher for their Recorder lessons.

Year 4- Exploring Dance

During this unit, students will investigate how to convey meaning through movement. Using the elements of dance, movement and performance skills, students will collaborate on performances to perform to the class. They will view and respond to performances by other students, and explain how the elements of dance create meaning for audiences.

Reminders

Please continue to assist us by:

- Keeping your child at home if they are unwell.
- Reporting your child's absence to the school on the same day by phoning or emailing the school. Unexplained absences will be followed up by a phone call/note.
- Ensuring your child knows their pick up arrangements for each afternoon.
- Ensuring your child has their own pencil case and that it is fully equipped. Please ensure your child has the minimum requirements of headphones, lead pencils, a ruler, a pair of scissors, glue and an eraser.
- Making sure your child has their water bottle everyday, as bubblers are not currently being used.
- Placing your child's name and class on all belongings.
- Ensuring your child wears a broad brimmed hat and sunscreen to school every day.
- Ensuring your details are up-to-date and regularly check Operoo and Skoolbag to receive school information and permission notes.

Please note: The sharing of food at school continues to be discouraged due to current circumstances. If your child has a *birthday* this term and you wish to send in a treat for them to share with the class, we ask that *individually wrapped items* are sent to school (e.g. Freddo Frogs). Homemade cupcakes are unable to be distributed at school.

The Stage 2 teachers look forward to working with you to support the learning of your child throughout Term 3.