



Grade 3/4 Newsletter

May 2018

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IMPORTANT DATES

- **School Banking**
Every Thursday
- **NAPLAN**
May 14 – May 22
- **Choir in the Garden**
May 30th
- **History Incursion**
June 6th
Please pay now via QKR
- **Reports go home**
Last day of term
June 28th
- **Term 3 begins**
Monday July 15th
- **Grade 3/4 Camp**
12th 13th 14th August

Congratulations to all Year 3/4 students on a settled start to Term 2. On a daily basis, we see many examples of our students exhibiting our school agreements of Respect, Responsibility and Integrity. It is fantastic to see our Year 3 students “stepping up” and accepting the challenge of becoming independent, self - motivated learners.

The month of May is NAPLAN time and we have been busy preparing our students for this annual national assessment. For the first time, a majority of the testing is taking place on-line and students have had an opportunity to experience this new approach in order to settle the nerves and be confident on the day. We wish our Year 3s the best of luck and are confident that you will do your best!

This Term we are learning about Australian History, from multiple perspectives. As part of this unit, all ¾ students have to opportunity to participate in an incursion. The workshop is called *Wominjeka: The Reconciliation Workshop*. Payments are now open on QKR.

Coming into winter, we are asking for donations of tissues for our classrooms, as we know we will need them. Also, if your child is sick (more than a minor cold), please keep them at home to prevent the spread of germs to the other students. Don't forget your coats and hats for outdoor play despite the weather.

Regards from the 3/4 team.

What we are learning.....

Literacy

During Term 2 we are focused on Persuasive Writing and learning the language and conventions of persuasion. Students are encouraged to take a strong position, back up their position with reasons and examples and use facts and emotions to strengthen their position. Don't be surprised if they try these new skills out on you! :)

Numeracy

In Maths we are currently focused on written and mental addition and subtraction strategies. Students are solving problems using these strategies and using patterns and their knowledge of place value to solve problems creatively. We are also exploring 2D and 3D which will result in the creation of an historical artifact tied to our Inquiry unit on Australian history.

Inquiry Unit

Our Inquiry is focused on Australian History, pre and post European settlement. We are using the television series My Place, based on Sally Morgan's text. Students will be researching and creating a biography or narrative of an Australian historical figure.

This Term:

Philosophy

All three grades visit Pauleen on a Friday for our philosophy session and we have established terrific routines and rules of respect for our sessions. There are "no wrong answers" in philosophy. If you have a good reason for your opinion and you can express it clearly, then philosophy is the place to share!!!! This has also helped us with writing our persuasive texts and expressing our opinions and ideas.

We talked a lot about being a good friend and worked our way through conversations about bullying and how both of these topics related to our classes and our school life.

Then we stepped into Anzac Day. There was such a beautiful ceremony at school in the mist surrounding the Pine on our school grounds. Our Pine was grown from an acorn that came from The Lone Pine at Gallipoli. We had positive and empowering conversations about the world in the future and what we would do in regards to future conflict.

We now have a visiting pre-service teacher who will be facilitating our sessions for the next three weeks under my supervision. Welcome Sarah, we hope you enjoy your stay with us at The Patch. Pauleen



This Term:

S.T.E.M

We had an extremely successful first term in STEM with all students deeply engaged in our Unit on The Human Body. Pre and post assessments demonstrate that a huge amount of learning (and fun) took place.

In STEM this term we will be focused on Digital Technology. We will investigate inputs and outputs, circuits and basic programming later in the term using Makey Makey devices. We are lucky enough to have been able to borrow these devices from The University of Adelaide CSER Digital Technologies Education unit lending library.

Looking forward to another great term of exploration and learning!

Nina

Indigenous perspective to Australian history

In our Rotations this term we will be focusing on an Indigenous perspective to Australian history.

Our studies have included a look at Australian wars and the varied forces our Indigenous peoples participated in.

We continue to explore the Kulin Nation and the Wurundjeri peoples who travelled through the land our school is built on and various cultural sites in the Dandenong Ranges.

These studies will then lead into our Aboriginal Bush Tucker Trail and extending our knowledge of indigenous plants and their usage in Term 3.

Judy

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