Homework Expectations:

- **Mathletics** several times a week. [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au)
- **Reading** for 20-30 minutes every day. Remember to track your thinking and record your reading in your diary.

What’s Coming Up

- **Camp payment** due – Wed 17th June
- **Last Day of Term Two** – Friday 26th June
- **First Day of Term 3** – Monday 14th July
- **Grade 3/4 Camp** – Wednesday 22nd – Friday the 24th of July
- **Reports go home** – early next term
- **Three-Way Conferences** – week 4 of Term 3

What we are learning about at the moment:

**Numeracy**: Multiplication and division continue to be a major focus in Maths as does the investigation into fractions. We multiply numbers (factors) together to find an answer (product). We divide a product into equal groups to find factors. We can use this information to help us find fractions of a whole. We use multiplication charts to help us identify factors and products and we can also use concrete materials like counters and blocks to help us work out fractions of a whole. Ask your child to demonstrate how to find the fraction of a whole 😊 Using a multiplication chart is one strategy that helps and will become less necessary as the children learn their times tables. Please remember to help your child to master their times tables. You can download and print out the times table flash cards we have uploaded to the Grade 3/4 section of the school website [http://www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au/year-level-news/year-3-4/](http://www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au/year-level-news/year-3-4/)

**Literacy**: We are investigating poetry in Writing. We are reading poetry and learning about the importance of rhythm in poetry which helps a poem to ‘flow’. We are learning to write our own poetry using our understanding of the ‘essential elements of the poetry writer’s craft’ (the ingredients used to write a poem). We are working on making our poetry interesting by making good word choices. We continue to review nouns, verbs and adjectives and consider how using adjectives and adverbs can enhance our writing.

**READ READ READ!!!** EVERY NIGHT!!! We know that reading more makes us better readers. Reading helps us to learn more about the world, it increases our vocabulary and helps our imagination to grow. Students are asked to record their daily reading in their diaries and returning their diaries to school every day for teachers to check. Teachers are carefully keeping track of students who are reading regularly and everyone who remembers to follow this process will be participating in a super fun rewards day that we are planning for them for the last day of term (Friday 26th June). Is your child reading each night?

All students are focussing on THREE spelling words at a time.
A major part of the new reporting schedule at The Patch P.S. is the running of Three Way Conferences.

These conferences are led by the student with support from the teacher, creating an atmosphere of celebration for students and an “ownership” of their learning. It is no longer a conversation between grown-ups, but an opportunity for students to showcase their success and share their learning.

Prior to the conference, students work with their teachers in class to develop their presentation. They learn about public speaking skills and the importance of solid preparation. They reflect on their learning and set goals to help them move forward.

In Years Prep – 2, students discuss their learning with parents, show examples of their favourite work, discuss some goals and reflect on the past Semester. At this level, the conference is heavily supported by the teacher and should be viewed as one step along the way to an independent, self-directed conference in Years 5/6.

In Years 3 – 6, the student uses a PowerPoint presentation during this conference to present work samples, discuss successes, present future learning goals and reflect on the past Semester. The presentation is developed during Writing and ICT sessions, as it is an authentic use of transactional text and ICT to present their own ideas.

Reflection and goal setting is central to student learning and part of our regular assessment and reporting cycle. The Three Way Conference is a powerful way for students to showcase their learning in a supportive environment and allows parents a deeper insight into their child’s achievement.

The Three Way Conference is a celebration of student learning. Therefore any issues or concerns requiring a conversation between a teacher and parent/carer should be organized for a later time. This is not to diminish any important issue, but to acknowledge the purpose of the Three Way Conference.
**Mathletics** is a brilliant tool to help your child cement the topics we are covering at school in Numeracy. **Students who are not using Mathletics at home will be required to complete a maths work sheet for homework.**

**Boxes of tissues** are always needed here at school. Please send some in with your child if you can. In the interest of Sustainability, please consider purchasing tissues made from recycled paper.

**Camp payment** ($240) is due by Wednesday the 17th of June. We realise that finding this amount of money can be challenging at times and we encourage you to speak with us if you need to. Likewise, if you wish to speak with us about any concerns you have in regards to camp, please feel free to contact us. Have you told us yet whether your child will or will not be attending camp? **Unless we hear otherwise from you, we will assume that your child will be attending this camp.**

As part of our **Sustainability** program, students are participating in innovative and interesting ‘campaigns’. You can find out about these campaigns on our website – click on the Sustainability link under “Student Programmes. Please read the information on the following page in regards to 3/4C’s incredible campaign.

**The weather** at this time of the year can be unpredictable and wet day timetables become more common. At our school we are raising resilient young people and we believe that it is important for our students to be prepared for inclement weather and to spend time outside on these days.

Our community understands the benefits of being outside in the warmer weather and we provide our children with appropriate clothing for such weather (hats, t-shirts, shorts and sunscreen). Those same benefits can be obtained in winter, providing we wear suitable warm clothing and have access to rainwear if it is drizzling.

Some advantages to spending time outside at break times include
- staff and students getting some fresh air rather than spending the whole day inside;
- it provides a chance for students to use their bodies (particularly the large muscles) rather than just their minds;
- It improves winter fitness and increases circulation;
- we are healthier and more resilient when we spend more time in a natural environment.

In recognition of this we will be sending students outside on wet weather days during recess and lunch play times, provided it is safe to do so. They will need to have warm clothes and a raincoat and you may consider an extra pair of dry socks in their bags. Children without coats will be able to play in one of the many sheltered areas as they do when they do not have a hat in summer.

In the case of extreme or dangerous winter weather, students will of course be kept safely inside.

**Your children are very important to us and we believe that we work best when we all work together. If you have any information, celebrations or concerns that you would like to share with your child’s teacher, please contact us to make an appointment.**
Our school is participating in a fascinating recycling program!

We are collecting a wide variety of items whose packages are normally very difficult to recycle and usually end up as garbage in landfill.

TerraCycle takes them, cleans them up and turns them into new and useful consumer products like park benches, recycled garden pavers, recycled waste bins and bags. This means the usually discarded packages are not going into landfill and, better still, the new “upcycled” products use much less energy to make than items made from raw materials.

If you use any of the items listed below, Please collect them and send them in to your child’s classroom. Please also consider asking friends and family to help us raise money for our school.

TerraCycle will donate 1 cent to our school for every item we collect. So we’re not only helping the environment, but we’ll be helping our school just by collecting something that would normally be considered garbage!

Here’s all you need to know about the items we are collecting:

You can bring your items to be recycled to The Patch Primary School and put them into the appropriate boxes in the school foyer.

Thank you for your help with this fascinating and innovative recycling project!