



Grade 1/2 Curriculum Newsletter

Term 3, 2023

Welcome back to Term 3, and the beginning of a new semester. This term will be a little longer than the last, but it is shaping up to be an extremely busy one.

As I'm sure most of you are already aware, our school concert is scheduled for the end of the term. The students have begun rehearsing their class performance and are increasingly excited about the big production. Our grade 1/2s will also be attending a performance by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra later in the term – an event which is sure to inspire them in preparation for our whole school concert.

In week 4, we will also be receiving a visit from an education officer at Wyndham Council. As part of our new Integrated unit, My Place, the students will be participating in an incursion which focuses on our surrounding environment, urban community and the animals we share our area with.

Friendly reminders –

If you haven't already, please return portfolios to classroom teachers by the end of the week. We are ready to start adding new work to them to showcase this term's learning.

Classes are still in need of tissues. It would be much appreciated if each family could donate a box to their child's class.

SMARTS goals are now accessible online. Please refer to the previous notification from the principal in relation to this or speak to your child's teacher.

Kind regards from the Grade One and Two Team.

Reading

Students will continue to practise SMARTS goals in class using a range of narratives. Our main reading focus for the term will be comprehension. To begin this term we will all be focusing on making connections to our texts in order to understand characters and events. We will also be covering other reading strategies such as inferring and analysing using some of this year's CBCA shortlisted books as part of Literacy week.

Please ensure your child returns their communication bag to school each day along with their reading diary. This helps classroom teachers to not only track student reading at home, but also enables prompt communication between school and parents/carers.

Writing

This term we will be using the Seven Steps program to develop our writing craft. In conjunction with spelling, grammar and punctuation lessons, students will be learning to write narratives with sizzling starts and exciting endings. Throughout the term, students will learn how to plan and refine their ideas, culminating in a final piece of work to showcase all that they have learnt. We can't wait to share our stories with you!

Numeracy

Students will begin the term revisiting and consolidating multiplication and division skills learnt in Term 2. They will be recognizing what a group is, making arrays and using concrete materials to facilitate understanding. We will also be learning to estimate and measure the area of objects using informal units.

Later in the term, students will be revisiting fractions – a unit they loved last semester – in particular quarters, thirds and eighths and where these fractions sit on a number line. We will finish the term looking at locational and directional language. The students will be learning to follow and give directions as well as read maps.

Specialist Areas for Term 3

MUSIC

The whole school focus of our music sessions in Term Three is Performance. The children will be working collaboratively on staging a whole school performance. The performance will be showcased on Thursday 14 September, 2023 (more information will be distributed during the term).

This performance aims to showcase the student's talents in drama, music, dance and voice. Performing helps to build self-confidence and self-expression. It helps develop memory skills, problem solving skills, team building, social interaction and co-operation. This term the children will continue to refine their class performance, learn about stage etiquette and design stage props and costumes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This term in Physical Education students will be learning about hand eye coordination with a key focus on Throwing and Catching. The students will learn the correct throwing techniques as well as the steps required to throw a ball towards a target. The students will learn how to throw overarm and underarm. Catching skills will also be introduced to the students by learning to catch different shaped and sized balls.

VISUAL ART

This term the children will be focusing on fine motor skills, such as using scissors and tying knots and bows. They will construct several 3D art works incorporating cutting, gluing, drawing and knot tying. The children will use videos created by myself to assist their learning and enable them to review techniques at their own pace, as well as working in small groups and using peer support.

JAPANESE

The Grade One and Two students will be exploring the weather words such as sunny, rainy, cloudy and snowy. The students will continue to learn Hiragana scripts by using the flashcards with gestures. They will practise writing weather words and short sentences in Hiragana. Using a weather song, they will sing and practise the lyrics in Japanese. They will have an opportunity to create a weather mobile. Students will also explore Japanese cultural celebration 'Tanabata, Star Festival'.

STEM

Grade One

During term 3 students will be introduced to laptops to learn basic computer literacy. Students will learn how to log into the school laptops as well as Google Classroom, where they will be introduced to Google Docs and Slides. They will also be learning the basics that we as adults take for granted, such as the SHIFT key, the ENTER key and the SPACEBAR. Students will practise mouse skills, for example left and right clicking, drag and drop and the single/double click.

Grade Two

During term 3 students will be introduced to laptops to learn basic computer literacy. Students will be learning the basics that we as adults take for granted, such as the SHIFT key, the ENTER key and the SPACEBAR. They will practise mouse skills, for example left and right clicking, drag and drop and the single/double click. Students will learn how to log into their Google Account using their school email, where they will be able to access Google Classroom, Google Docs and Slides. Google Classroom plays a large roll in Grades 3-6, so students will be exposed to assignments, how to open and type in documents.

