



## 3/4 NEWSLETTER TERM 1 2026

Welcome back to what is set to be a busy and exciting 2026! All students have made a fantastic start to the school year and have settled nicely into their classes. The 3/4 team is currently located in Building A (Administration Building). The Year 3/4 teachers are: Ms Sevda Balla, Ms Elizabeth Cutter, Ms Kylie Jenkins, Mr Jonathan Lim. Our Education Support staff members are: Ms Gab Coles, Mrs Yemen Haddara, Mrs Saniya Khatoun, Mrs Arpi Kuhaluri and Mrs Mnaza Noreen.

### LITERACY

This term in our Literacy lessons, students will be using the Literacy CAFÉ Program, which assists students with individual reading skills and techniques. The aim of this program is to teach children the importance of reading and understanding what it is they have read. Students will build upon their understanding of different text types and their specific features. We will be using narrative and



persuasive texts to explore and learn about making predictions, questioning skills and the ability to determine the important information in a text. Reading forms an important part of the students learning and we encourage students to read regularly at home. Students will be bring home readers and we ask that you help by listening to them read and allowing them to explain their understanding of what they have read.

In Writing this term, we will be focusing on various writing text types, such as narrative and persuasive text. Students will work on the planning and drafting process of each of these writing types, through to editing and publishing. A major focus will be on the correct structure of a Narrative and a Persuasive text. Students will develop their skills in sentence structure, paragraphing, punctuation and spelling. They will continue to utilise strategies from the 'Seven Steps To Writing' program which is used to develop their personal writing style. We will also continue to build on our self-editing skills. Literacy SMARTS GOALS will be created with your child and uploaded onto Compass on a regular basis. Please read through the set goal and discuss these with your child.

As part of the Literacy Program students are engaged in various speaking and listening activities. During class discussions, students listen to others' views and respond appropriately using interaction skills. They will develop their language skills to express feelings and opinions on topics. Students will undertake a variety of tasks where they will be required to discuss and describe the features of a range of literary texts. Throughout the term, students will be required to use oral presentation skills through various activities.



## **NUMERACY**

In Numeracy, students will develop their knowledge in Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space, Statistics and Probability. This term, students in Years 3 and 4 will be developing their mathematical understanding through a focus on **place value, addition and subtraction, and angles**. They will strengthen their ability to read, write and compare numbers, use efficient strategies to solve problems, and explain their thinking. Students will also explore angles in everyday objects, learning to recognise and describe turns and shapes in their environment. These skills support confidence, accuracy, and problem-solving in everyday Mathematical situations. Number SMARTS GOALS will be created with your child and uploaded onto Compass on a regular basis. Please read through the set goal and discuss these with your child.



## **INTEGRATED STUDIES**



This term we will be focusing on the unit 'All About Me'. Within this topic, students will explore factors that contribute to their individuality. We will also be exploring factors that impact on our health as well as our social and emotional wellbeing. Students will develop strategies to manage physical, social and emotional change. As part of the unit, students will identify strategies to make the classroom, playground and online spaces safe places.

## **INFORM AND EMPOWER PROGRAM**

This term the 3/4 students will continue to participate in the 'INFORM AND EMPOWER' Program. Inform and Empower partners with the school to create a safer and positive online experience for every child. It's an innovative and interactive online program that has a LIVE stream each term. The 3/4 Program is 'Adventures Online'. Students will follow the adventures of Ava, Noah and Zoe as they navigate the online world. Topics that students will focus on during the year are Term 1 – Digital Citizenship, Term 2 – Healthy Digital Habits, Term 3 – Cyberbullying and Term 4 – Being Safe and Secure.



## **HEALTHY LIVING KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM**



In Term 1, the Year 3 and 4 students will begin our exciting Garden and Kitchen Program. Through hands-on experiences, students will learn how to grow, care for, and harvest plants, as well as prepare simple, healthy meals using fresh ingredients. The program supports learning in science, health, and sustainability, while also building important life skills such as teamwork, responsibility, and problem-solving.

Students will develop an understanding of where food comes from and how to make positive choices for their health and the environment. We look forward to seeing their confidence and curiosity grow as they work together in the garden and kitchen.

## **HOMEWORK**



Students in 3/4 are expected to complete homework each night. They are expected to read their take home reader (at their reading ability level) for 20 minutes. Once they have completed their reading, students are expected to record the name of the book they are reading in their diary.

## **DIARY**

It is the student's responsibility to take their diary home each day and have it signed by their Parent/Carer. This is so students learn to use the diary as an organisational tool and so that they (and their families) are aware of the many things happening in our busy school.

The student diary is also an effective communication tool between school and home. Please feel free to use it to communicate to your child's teacher. **The diary needs to be signed daily.** Please ensure that the diary is kept in good condition and replaced if lost or damaged.

## **ABSENCES**

### EVERY DAY COUNTS & EVERY MINUTE MATTERS

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind. In Victoria school is **compulsory** for children and young people aged 6 -17 years. Coming to school every day helps your child make and maintain friendships and build connections to others.

**It is a requirement that schools must record and monitor attendance and absences.**

There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick. Developing good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference. The school requires medical certificates for students who are experiencing high levels of absenteeism.

Please ensure that all student absences are reported to the school. This can be done by:

- Logging via Compass and add an attendance note (found under "approvals" on the app)
- Calling the school on 9249 2770
- Emailing the school - [woodville.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:woodville.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Please take some time to go through the attached 'Every Day Counts Attendance Fact Sheet'. Thank you for your assistance with this.

## **YEAR 3/4 DOXA CAMP AT MALMSBURY**



The Year 3 and 4 students have the opportunity to attend the Doxa Camp at Malmsbury in Term 3. The camp is in a bush setting where the students will participate in a variety of activities. Students on the Doxa Camp will travel by bus to the camp site. More information will be sent out to families throughout the year.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

It is pleasing to see the 3/4 students wearing their school uniform with pride.

Well done for being such fantastic **role models** for our school. Keep up the great work!

All students are expected to be in full school uniform every day. The correct uniform includes the school polo shirt, navy shorts/skirt or school dress. Jumpers and pants are expected to be navy blue. Hair ties and clips are asked to be blue or white. Footwear must be appropriate for school. School shoes **should** be black and sneakers predominantly black or white. Woodville Primary School is a sun smart school and a 'No Hat No Play' policy exists in Terms One and Four.



To help prevent the spread of **head lice** students must tie up shoulder length or longer hair (a plait will often help with longer hair also). Please **name** all articles of clothing/hat as this will assist in children reclaiming them if lost.

**A copy of the School Dress Code is available from the school website.**

## **SMARTS GOALS**

Teachers and students will continue to work together to reflect on student learning to create SMARTS goals. Your child will have at least 3 goals; one for reading, writing and number. These goals will continue to be uploaded onto COMPASS and will be revised on a regular basis. New goals will be set throughout the term. Please ensure you chat to your child about their goals and practise these at home. If you have any questions please contact your child's teacher.

## **PARENTS/CARERS**

If you would like to chat to your child's teacher (sharing personal information, concerns or need further clarification) please contact the school by phone 9749 2770 or email [woodville.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:woodville.ps@education.vic.gov.au) and the teacher will endeavour to return your call at the earliest possible time. Parents are also able to communicate with teachers via Compass Connect.

It would be fantastic if each child could **bring a box of tissues** each term for student's use in class. Please remind your child to bring water bottles to school for use throughout the day.

**Meet and Greet Interviews with your child's teacher will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of February. Book your time slot through our Compass Portal.**

We look forward to building an excellent working relationship with all our parents/carers.

## **SPECIALIST REPORT**

This term our Specialist classes are -

### **ART – Nicole Wassell**

During term 1 Grade 3 and 4 students will continue to grow as creative and critical thinkers through a range of engaging, hands-on activities that promote discussion, active listening, and problem-solving through artistic practice. These learning experiences encourage students to communicate their ideas clearly, explore multiple perspectives, and approach challenges with creativity and innovation.

Through practical creative tasks, students will develop confidence in generating multiple solutions, thinking flexibly, and collaborating effectively with their peers. They will also explore colour theory, including colour mixing and the use of complementary colours, to enhance their understanding of visual expression. Throughout the term, students will continue to expand their art vocabulary and visual literacy by observing, analysing, and discussing a range of artworks.



### **MUSIC – Lisa Wood**



During Term One students will be learning bucket drumming as part of their classroom music program. Through fun and engaging lessons, students will learn basic rhythmic notation, play a variety of rhythms and patterns, and perform along with music. They will explore and apply key elements of music such as tempo, dynamics, and rhythm, developing both coordination and musical understanding.

Students will also have the opportunity to compose and perform their own short drumming piece, encouraging creativity, teamwork and confidence.

### **LOTE – Japanese Miyuki Wirth**

During Term One students will deepen their understanding of the language in structured LOTE (Language Other Than English) contexts. They will be exposed to new vocabulary, expressions, and grammar structures through short, modelled spoken texts connected to everyday student experiences. Visual aids such as flashcards will continue to support Hiragana practice. Students will apply their vocabulary knowledge to comprehend phrases and sentences and gradually practise writing short sentences in Hiragana.



### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Tom Digby**



This term students will be introduced to a beginners Athletics program. Students will be exposed to a variety of athletics track and field events, practising their skills for the upcoming athletics day held in May. Students will participate in a variety of events such as 100 Metre Sprint, 200m Sprint, High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Discus, Shot Put and Baton Relay. Students will practise for these events during their weekly PE lessons and participate in skill based activities to improve their running, jumping and throwing.

## **STEM – Leanne Sammut**

Grade 3/4 students will build on their existing digital knowledge this term through structured and creative tasks. Aligned with the Digital Technologies 2.0 curriculum, students will learn to navigate and use Google Slides effectively. They will create a digital presentation based on a game of their choice. Students will practise inserting images, videos, hyperlinks, and formatted text into their slides. The focus will be on organising information clearly and communicating ideas digitally. Students will also develop skills in planning, editing, and presenting their work. This unit supports both technical skills and creative expression.



**Thank you,  
Year 3/4 Teachers**

# EVERY DAY COUNTS

## ATTENDANCE FACT SHEET FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

School is better when you're here.

### DO I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Yes, in Victoria everyone aged from 6 – 17 has to go to school.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing four whole weeks of school a year.

From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

School is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you are away and wonder if you are OK.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT I GO TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

Right now, being at school is the most important thing you need to do for your future. School helps you build good habits for later on in life. You might think school is just about Maths and English but you're also learning about how to work with other people and how to solve problems.

Being at school every day also means you are becoming more independent as a learner and interacting with your friends and teachers. If you are at school you can get help from your teachers and friends and won't have to try to learn things in your own time.

Being an adult probably seems far away but we know that young people who attend school more frequently have better outcomes after school too. This means they earn more money, have better job opportunities and are generally healthier. So being at school really does make a difference!

### Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



### Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



## **DO MY PARENTS NEED TO LET THE SCHOOL KNOW IF I'M GOING TO BE AWAY?**

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away.

If you're away from school too much and don't have a reasonable excuse like a serious illness, your parents might get a letter from the principal asking about why you're away.

## **ARE THERE ANY GOOD REASONS TO BE AWAY FROM SCHOOL?**

No. Unless you are very unwell or there is an event like a funeral, you should be at school. Every day you are away is a day of classes and social connection you miss out on. Taking a day off for your birthday or go shopping isn't a good reason to miss school.

Even medical and health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays. This includes family holidays. Your parents are encouraged not to plan holidays during the term but to organise these during the school holidays.

If you do have to be away for some reason, your parents need to contact the school and let them know what's going on. Depending on the situation, the school might provide schoolwork for you to complete.

## **IF I'M NOT AT SCHOOL WHAT DO I MISS OUT ON?**

You miss out on all the big stuff – class discussions and all the interaction that happens in a classroom, the chance to get help from teachers and the opportunity to practice skills and gain knowledge.

Being away means you might miss out on a lot of learning or that you need to catch up in your time.

If all of that isn't enough to convince you to be at school every day, being away also means you also miss out on playing with your friends. Being away from school a lot can be lonely. It has a big impact on relationships and social connections.

Believe it or not, everyone wants you at school and it really is better when you attend.

## **WHAT IF I'M HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING TO SCHOOL?**

Getting to school on time everyday can be about having a good routine.

If you find yourself running late or missing school because you're disorganised, try:

- Asking your parents for help getting ready
- Having a set time to go to bed
- Leaving all technology out of your bedroom
- Packing your school bag the night before with everything you need
- Having a set time for breakfast
- Planning to meet up with a friend so you can travel to school together.

Sometimes, though it can just be hard to go to school. Whatever the situation is, staying away from school isn't the answer. Many people want to help you. Try talking to:

- Your parents or another adult family member
- A trusted teacher
- Wellbeing Coordinator.