



18 May 2009

Dear Parents/Carers

Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) Parent Information – Term 2 2009

Welcome to Term 2 and a special welcome to all families who are new to our school. The students have returned from holidays refreshed and ready for learning. We thank Ms Carr for teaching 3R in Term 1 and welcome back Ms Coyle from Maternity Leave. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. Reports will be sent home in Week 10 and progress conferences held in Week 11 Term 2.

The following provides an overview of learning for Stage 2. Class programs may differ slightly due to student needs, interests and abilities. Students will work towards achieving Stage 2 outcomes and Foundation Statements by the end of Year 4.

English

All strands of English are emphasised in the daily Literacy session. In **Talking and Listening**, students will focus on developing their public speaking skills and learn to attentively and critically listen for information and instructions. **Reading** will be modelled and students will develop a range of word attack and comprehension skills using a variety of texts. The emphasis is on producing quality pieces of **writing** with attention to spelling, punctuation, grammar and handwriting. Year 3 will focus on narratives (stories) in the earlier part of Term 2. A variety of text types will be taught, exposed or consolidated throughout the term. Topics from HSIE and Science will provide stimulus for writing, as well as other literature studied.

Mathematics

Students will learn Mathematics through a variety of practical activities and situations, which require them to **work mathematically**. Asking questions, clarifying answers, using mental and written strategies and checking and reasoning answers are some of the skills required. The strands emphasised in Year 3 this term are whole numbers, fractions, multiplication, 3D space, data and length. The strands emphasised in Year 4 this term are whole numbers, chance, 3D space, data, length, area, multiplication and division.

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) & Science and Technology

To allow for the effective sharing of resources, Stage 2 classes will have a different sequence of learning in these areas. All students will complete all units by the end of the year. The units for this term are as follows-

- 3A, 3R, 3BC, 2/3B - HSIE- British Colonisation/Terra Nullius
- 4F, 4J & 4B - Science- Machines/Human Body
- 4J, 4S, 4F - HSIE & Science- Australiana

The excursion to Elizabeth Farm will be attended by all Stage 2 students by the end of Term 3. In school activities and excursions have been organised as an important part of learning in these units. Please check the term planner for dates and support your child's participation.

Creative and Practical Arts (CAPA)

The areas of music, dance and drama will be taught as part of the RFF program. Visual arts will be part of classroom learning and may include activities on the theme for the term. Students are also encouraged to join our creative arts groups for dance, flute, recorder, band, choir and flute.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PD/H/PE)

Physical activity is a core part of weekly learning. Students will participate in school sport or PSSA each Friday and aerobics each Tuesday. The cross country event took place in Week 1 at MJ Bennett Reserve and the annual athletics carnival is scheduled for Week 11 Term 2 (8 & 9 July). Currently the students are attending the Life Education program, engaging students in Personal Development and Health education activities.

Other important information

*Year 3 students sat for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 12-14 May. While this test is important, it is only a snapshot of their performance. It will reflect learning from Kindergarten to the present.

*Please help your child remember to bring his/ her pencil case with appropriate equipment every day, so as to maximise learning time.

*Money for activities or excursions will not be accepted on Mondays or Fridays.

*In the afternoons, parents are reminded to ensure they collect their children at 3pm in the designated area outside the classroom.

*Tissue supplies are running low in the classrooms! Donations of tissue boxes are desperately needed.

We look forward to your ongoing support this term.

Jennifer Simmonds
Relieving Principal

Kathryn Methven
Deputy Principal

Lina Azar
Relieving Assistant Principal