



Year 4 Community News

Welcome to our 2018 school year!

Learning Community Members

4C – Carolyn Cobain
4S – Simon Payton
ES – Carly Challengier

Important dates

February

13 - Parent Teacher Interviews – Meet and greet

March

1 - Family Picnic Night
8 – Grade 3/4 open morning (9am -9.45am)
12 - Labour Day Holiday
16 - School Photos
24 - School Fete
29 - Last day of Term 1:
2:15pm dismissal

Reminders:

Punctuality - Students should arrive at school at 8:50, ready to commence learning at 9:00. Students who arrive late miss out on important teaching time and it also distracts others from their learning.

Fruit and Water - Fresh fruit and a bottle of water keep students hydrated and alert.

Hats – Students are required to wear a hat outside during Term 1.

Writer's Notebook – Students can collect and bring to school 'seeds' (mementoes or information) for their Writer's Notebooks (e.g. photos, tickets from movies, events and attractions, etc.). These are used to inspire the students' writing.

Student Diaries - The student diary is required to be at school each day. Students will record their home reading and spelling words in their diary, as well as any other correspondence from the class teacher.

Homework:

Next week your child will be receiving the first homework grid for the year. This is to be completed over the fortnight and signed by you before it is returned.

Reading - 20 minutes of nightly reading is an essential component of homework.

Mathletics - is available for students to access challenges and activities; passwords will be handed out to students so they can access Mathletics at home.

Reading:

This term we will be focussing on reading and comprehending fictional texts. We will look at the structure and language features that these texts display. This will assist in preparing students for writing sessions. We will set up our classroom libraries and establish our independent reading routines. We will also be revisiting comprehension strategies such as predicting, making connections, using prior knowledge, visualising, clarifying, questioning, summarising and evaluating texts. Students will also be part of weekly reading groups and regular one-on-one conferences with their teacher where they will be given an individual reading goal to work towards.

Writing:

This term we are beginning our writing workshops by establishing individual Writer's Notebooks. Students will be taught the structure and language features of narrative texts. We will focus on developing characters and settings in our narratives through the use of descriptive language. Students will plan, draft, revise, edit and publish their own narrative texts. We will be conducting regular class spelling investigations. Students will also have their own individual spelling words that they need to practise weekly before being tested in class.

Mathematics:

Students will participate in maths sessions that focus on place value as well as addition and subtraction strategies. We will also be investigating time and shape, conducting chance experiments and collecting and interpreting data. We encourage the use of Mathletics to support students' learning at school.

Inquiry Topic:

Our inquiry unit this term is 'My Community'. We will investigate different types of communities and local government in order to develop the following understandings:

- How are decisions made democratically?
- Why do we make rules and laws and why are they important?
- How can local government contribute to community life?
- How has my identity been shaped by the groups to which I belong?

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program:

We encourage family members to volunteer for the Kitchen and/or Garden program. Please check the term roster that has been sent home for dates and times of our sessions in the kitchen and the garden and let us know if you can help out!