

GRADE 3/4 NEWSLETTER

TERM 2, 2018



Welcome back everyone. We hope you had a great term break enjoying some family time together. The children will be looking to extend on their great learning from Term 1.

Please take note of these important dates for Term 2:

- **ANZAC Day (No school)** Wednesday 25 April
- **NAPLAN Testing for Grade 3 Students**
 - Writing & Language Conventions Tuesday 15 May
 - Reading Wednesday 16 May
 - Numeracy Thursday 17 May
- **Healesville Excursion** Thursday 15 May
- **Report Writing Day (No school)** Monday 21 May
- **Grandparents Day/Open Day/Jump Rope for Heart** Thursday 24 May
- **Queen's Birthday holiday (No school)** Monday 11 June
- **Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences** Thursday 28 June
- **Last Day of Term 2** Friday 29 June (finish at 1:30 pm)

Please read our weekly newsletter, Jumbunna, for any additional dates that may arise.

A reminder that children will need to continue to wear their bottle green broad-brimmed hat until 30 April.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – LITERACY & NUMERACY (NAPLAN)

The Grade 3 students will be involved in NAPLAN testing in May. Teachers will try their best to support students in the lead up to this testing. We understand that some children will be very anxious about it and that is a common reaction. Try not to put unfair expectations on them about what "mark" they should get as teachers use a variety of procedures to assess the children's progress.

HOME READING



Many of the Grade 3 and 4 students have made a great start to their Take Home Reading this year; already receiving their first or second certificate and sticker. Just 15 minutes each night can make a world of difference. Students will be encouraged to complete their requirements for the Premier's Reading Challenge by borrowing these books from our well-resourced Library.

LITERACY

The Literacy program covers the areas of **Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening**.

During the **Reading** program, students read as a whole class, in small groups and individually to develop reading with expression, accuracy and fluency. Students will be focussing on the comprehension skills of sequencing, facts and details and comparing and contrasting.

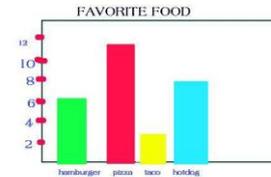
In **Writing** the main focus is on **Persuasive** writing. Children will write to convince the reader about their point of view giving reasons for their opinions. They will learn the correct structure and appropriate vocabulary to use for this text type.

Grammar and **Word Study** will focus on punctuation, spelling patterns, spelling rules and letter blends. In **Handwriting** sessions, students will continue to develop a joined handwriting style that is legible and fluent.

NUMERACY

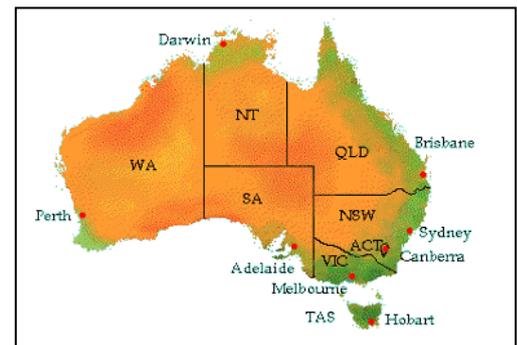
In Term 2, our Mathematics program will focus on the following concepts:

- subtraction with decomposition: Grade 3s to 999 and Grade 4s to 10000
- describe, continue, and create number patterns resulting from performing addition or subtraction
- counting by fractions to whole numbers and exploring fractions using materials
- multiplication and division - linking multiplication facts to division equations
- measure, order and compare objects using area
- 3D objects - identification and vocabulary such as faces, edges and vertices
- mapping-interpreting simple maps, following directions and using keys
- collecting data and representing it in different ways such as lists, tables, tallies and graphs.



INTEGRATED STUDIES/SCIENCE

This term, our Geography focus will be on the location of Australia's neighbouring countries and the diverse characteristics of these places. We will focus on Indonesia and Papua New Guinea in relation to Australia. The students will look at similarities and differences between places in terms of their type of settlement, demographic characteristics and the lives of the people who live there.



The Science focus will be on Australian animals. We will look at animal habitats and how environmental factors affect their survival and how they depend on each other and the environment to survive.



ICT

We are very fortunate to be able to give students the opportunity to use a range of devices. Children have their regular 1 hour session in the computer lab as well as a 2 hour block for use of the Surface Pros and Netbooks.

This term, the students will complete set tasks to develop their computer skills using Microsoft Word, Publisher. Children will also complete tasks to complement our Numeracy and Literacy programs.





Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Lalor East Primary is excited to be participating. The Challenge is in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition, but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by the end of August 2017. Students from year 3 to year 6 are challenged to read 15 books. All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier in term 4.

HOMEWORK

Please continue to support your child in completing all homework requirements. It is expected that times tables, Take Home Reading and spelling words will be practised daily.

Any homework sheets and projects should be returned by the due date unless an alternative date is pre-arranged with your child's teacher.

If you have any questions about your child's progress please arrange a time to speak to your child's teacher. We are looking forward to another great term with lots of learning taking place.

From the Grade 3/4 teachers

Dimitra Vassiliou, Stephanie Chan, Mary Kassos/Ruth Aitken and Hannah Sutherland.

FROM THE SPECIALIST TEAM

MUSIC – Hari Mathios

In term 2, students will perform different drama plays, in which they will explore the use of different voices, expression, voice projection and script interpretation. They will continue singing new and familiar songs to improve their pitch and rhythm. They will also be exploring basic music notation including the music staff, in order to compose and perform melodies on the keyboard. This term students will be exploring songs from Western and Northern Europe and Africa.



ART- Karren Moncur

The children will complete their textile unit by making felt into a small creature made from a triangle of felt material and adding eyes. The children will then go onto a painting unit, the focus is on colour in the first few weeks. Then the children will be asked to produce a painting like an Optical Art style, where the colour and lines play with your eyes.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Dean Sharples

In Term 2, students will complete the Australian Fitness Education program, which consists of the 20 metre Shuttle Run, Sit & Reach Test, Basketball Throw and Shoulder Stretch. Each student's results will be recorded and their physical development will be discussed in their semester reports. Students will be participating in an intensive skipping unit in preparation for the school's annual Jump Rope for Heart Day. This will be held on Thursday 24 May. They will also participate in a minor games unit, where there will be a focus on attacking and defending skills and applying game tactics to small game situations. To end the term, the students will take part in a Gymnastics unit, focusing on development of body movements, balances and rotation activities.

