Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back everyone. We hope the children are well rested and ready for a very busy and exciting Term 2.

Some of the special events this term include:

- A visit to the Life Education Van
- NAPLAN Testing in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy for Grade 3 Students
- Education Week

Important dates for your diaries include:

- Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences - Wednesday 27th June

LITERACY

The Literacy program covers the areas of **Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening**. This term **Writing** will focus on Report Writing, Explanation Texts and Narrative Writing. Students are given opportunities to develop writing skills in planning, drafting, editing and publishing.

**Grammar/Punctuation** will focus on: pronouns, verbs, adjectives, exclamation marks and apostrophes in contractions (it’ll, you’re, they’ve).

**Word Study/Spelling** activities include student’s individual spelling words, theme words and words studied in family groups.

In **Handwriting** students are taught to develop fluent and neat cursive script. Pen Licences are issued in Terms 3 and 4 to Grade 4 students only.

During the **Reading** program, students read as a whole class, in small groups and individually to develop reading with expression, accuracy and fluency. Students are encouraged to read for meaning and understanding, read silently and aloud with expression. Students are read to in class to enhance their listening skills, reinforce the development of print and to learn how to extract meaning and information from writing. Students will be focussing on the comprehension skills of finding the main idea, sequencing events from the text, fact & opinion and comparing and contrasting information.
Students are encouraged to borrow **Take Home Books** and **Library Books** to read at home nightly. This will be of great benefit to their literacy development.

**NUMERACY**
Mathematics is planned through a team approach to ensure all areas of the mathematics curriculum are covered. At the beginning of the term, grade 3 students will be involved in preparation for the NAPLAN tests by focussing on reading, breaking down and answering questions from previous tests.

The grade 4 students will have their learning targeted toward identified problems, that they struggled to answer on previous tests.

For the rest of the term, the areas covered in Mathematics will include:

- Subtraction
- Multiplication
- Times tables
- Length
- Perimeter
- Area

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**
The main topic for Term 2 is, **The Human Body**. The children will be looking at the main systems in the body such as the digestive, skeletal and respiratory systems. They will explore the purpose, function and operation of the major human body systems.

The students will also be researching and producing their first project for the year. The Life Education Van will visit the school and will provide a program to enhance what the children are learning in class.

**ICT**
Students are given opportunities to gain and develop computer skills and knowledge through a variety of activities, use literacy and numeracy CDs, explore educational websites related to topics studied in class and research information for their project on **The Human Body**. They will be using Microsoft Publisher to complete a number of tasks this term.

As well as weekly sessions in the Computer Lab, students will also have a weekly session utilizing the Netbooks. Students will continue to complete set tasks on **Mathletics** and in **SuperClubs Plus**.
HOMEWORK
It is expected that reading, spelling words and times tables be practised daily. We rely on your help to listen to your child read and assist them with their tables. Homework should be supervised and returned by the due date.

Students are encouraged to borrow books from the Take Home Reading tub and/or from the Library and these must be changed regularly.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

MUSIC
The main topic to be covered in music this term, is music notation. Students will learn how to read basic music patterns and will play a variety of musical pieces to reinforce what they are learning. Students will also work in groups to compose their own music pieces, using the knowledge they acquire through the term.

ART
The children will be involved in a modelling unit. They will create sculptures out of bread clay and terracotta clay. They will learn to join the clay so it will stay together when dry. The children will create a tile with decorations, that have been added and carved.

The children will then be involved in a construction unit. Starting with some pop up pages and then collaborating on sculptures made from rolled up newspaper.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
In Term 2, the 3/4 students will complete the Australian Fitness Education Award, which consists of the 20 metre Shuttle Run, Sit & Reach Test, Basketball Throw and Shoulder Stretch. Each student’s results will be recorded and presented to them with their Semester 1 Report.

Students will be participating in a skipping unit, in preparation for the school’s annual Jump Rope for Heart Day, which will be held on Thursday 24th May. They will also participate in a European Handball unit, where there will be a focus on passing and applying game tactics. To end the term, the students will take part in a Gymnastics unit, focusing on body movements, balances and rotation activities.

We’re looking forward to an exciting term working with your child.
The Grade 3 / 4 Team
Angela Pobjoy, Natalie Jessop, Kathy Ristevska and Julie Hewison