Dear Parents /Guardians,

Welcome back to a busy and exciting Term 4. It is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of another school year. Teachers will be involved with ongoing assessment in the areas of literacy and numeracy, which will assist them in writing the Semester 2 Reports.

Some of the special events this term include:
- Thursday 4th November - Whole School House Sports Day
- Tuesday 13th November - Excursion to Melbourne Museum and IMAX
- Wednesday 12th December - School Mini fete
- Friday 14th December - End of Year Christmas Celebrations.

**NUMERACY**

Mathematics is planned through a team approach to ensure all areas of the mathematics curriculum are covered. The areas of focus for this term are as follows:

- daily number fluency to revise concepts already taught
- revise addition and subtraction equations
- revise multiplication and division concepts
- revise times tables and develop quick responses
- revise fractions and decimal fractions
- develop problem solving strategies with open-ended questions
- chance & data – predicting outcomes based on simple experiments with spinners
- money
- telling the time – analogue and digital time, to the nearest five minutes, duration
- mass – the amount of matter contained in an object e.g. 1000g = 1kg.

**LITERACY**

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

Grammar/Punctuation will focus on the correct use of talking marks, prefixes, suffixes, homonyms, homophones and compound words.

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 a fluent and neat cursive script. Those Grade 4 students, who have not yet received Pen Licences, will have the opportunity to do so this term.

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 silently and out aloud and to read for meaning and understanding. Students are often 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 are encouraged to borrow Take Home Books and Library Books available to them and to read at home regularly. Students should be aiming for 15-20 minutes of reading a day.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**

The main topic for Term 4 is Mini beasts. As part of our unit, an excursion to the Melbourne Museum and IMAX Theatre has been organised. It is very important for all students to attend the excursion as we will be doing follow up work on it during class time.

During the unit, students will be involved in activities which have them sorting and classifying Mini beasts. They will understand that Mini beasts have an important part to play within our environment /ecological system. They will investigate a variety of mini beasts and present factual information about them.

Students will have a written project to complete, which will be presented in booklet form. The project will be mainly done at home and information will be given out as the term progresses.

**COMPUTERS**

Students are given opportunities to gain and develop computer skills and knowledge through a variety of activities, using literacy and numeracy games, exploring educational websites related to topics studied in class and researching information on Mini beasts. Programs the children will explore this term are Microsoft Publisher, Power Point and Kidpix.

As well as weekly sessions in the Computer Lab, students will also have 2 weekly sessions utilizing the Netbooks in the classroom.

**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. Students are encouraged to borrow books from the ‘Take Home Reading’ tub and/or from the Library and these must be changed regularly. Homework should be supervised and returned by the due date.
SPECIALIST CLASSES

MUSIC

In term 4, the grade 3/4 students will be concentrating on playing an instrument of their choice, for the majority of the term. Students may choose guitar, keyboard, ukulele or drums. The students will be completing a booklet at their own pace, that will help teach them the basics of their instrument. As well as this, students will be revisiting the basics of music notation.

Students will also be learning about film techniques and will be using the schools flip cameras to film their own short pieces.

ART

The children will finish their print block. They will then print their designs in paint, by rolling paint over their block and pressing it to the paper. The children will construct with boxes, using glue, sticky tape and wire to join them together. They will then make some special end of year art, using glitter and sparkle!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Term 4, children in Grade 3/4 will be continuing to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills by practising the strike and the throw and catch. This will carry on to Sport Specific Skills used in the game of Cricket. Children will then practice the strike through Bat Tennis and they will participate in a Round Robin tournament.

To end the term, the 3/4 students will play a variety of Minor Games including Mat Ball, Speed Ball and Korfball.

The Annual House Sports day, will be on Thursday 8th November.

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