Dear Parents / Guardians,
Welcome back to Term 3. We hope you all had a restful holiday and are ready for another busy term.
Mrs Ristevska is on Long Service Leave for the whole of this term, so we welcome Mrs Donna D'Souza to Room 20. We hope she has an enjoyable term with our lovely Grade 3/4 children.

Some of the special events this term include:
- 23rd July- NED Yo-Yo Show
- 31st July- Start Smart Program
- 7th August- Mathematics Competition
- 20th August- Family Maths Night
- 27th August- Multicultural Day

SWIMMING
This term our swimming program will go ahead. These lessons will be on Friday mornings at Epping Leisure Centre. Could you please ensure all items of clothing are named so that your child’s belongings can be returned if found?

LITERACY
Our reading program provides children with the opportunities to read a variety of text types. We also teach specific skills to better their understanding of what they read. This term we will look at comparing and contrasting, making inferences and paraphrasing.

Our writing program will continue to implement ideas from The Writing Model curriculum days. The children will be involved in daily writing sessions to increase their vocabulary and they will be supported in the construction of a piece of text using a variety of strategies.

In addition to these activities, we will focus on the following areas:
- Grammar to focus on enhancing sentences that are more complex in nature.
- Word Study/Spelling to continue to develop children’s knowledge of spelling rules and conventions.
- Handwriting sessions to continue to develop joined letters that are clearly formed and consistent in size.
- Punctuation will continue to be taught and used by the children within each writing session.

Speaking and listening skills are expected across all areas of the curriculum. We encourage all children to share their thoughts and understandings in a supportive environment.
NUMERACY
All learning experiences are planned in accordance with the AUSVELS curriculum. In our daily Mathematics sessions, we encourage the children to use explicit vocabulary to explain their thinking and understandings. They will be involved in small group activities as well as completing tasks individually.

The areas of focus for this term are as follows:
- place value to 10 000
- recalling multiplication and related division facts
- identifying angle sizes in everyday objects
- describing the features of 3 dimensional shapes
- data collection and interpreting results
- solving multiplication and division worded problems
- giving change to the nearest 10c or 5c
- measuring the capacity of objects.

The students involved in the Mathematics Competition will be prepared by our Maths Co-ordinator, Heather Campbell.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
The main topic for Term 3 is, The Australian Nation. The students will learn about key events in the development of the Australian Nation. They will also learn about each state’s emblems, flag, main attractions and places of interest.

SCIENCE
In Term 3, we will continue to provide the children with opportunities to become more curious through Science rotational activities. They will conduct simple experiments and be asked to predict what may happen and reflect on the reasons why certain things occur.

PEER SUPPORT/SOCIAL SKILLS
This term, the Grade 3 children will be involved in Peer Support sessions. These sessions are led by Grade 6 students who are trained to be Peer Support Leaders. The Grade 3 children will complete tasks involving listening, co-operation and team work. As an alternative, the Grade 4 children will participate in a Social Skills program dealing with positive behaviour, making friendships, identifying and dealing with their emotions and being an encouraging classmate.

COMPUTERS
Students are given opportunities to gain and develop computer skills and knowledge through a variety of activities. This term the focus will be on researching information about Australia. Teachers choose the websites carefully and direct the children to use them as they have language the children understand. Their project on an Australian state will be completed at school using Microsoft PowerPoint. As well as weekly sessions in the Computer Lab, students will also have weekly sessions utilizing the Surface Pro tablets and/or iPads in the classroom. We will also continue to empower the children to deal with issues they may have in using technology through participation in Cyber Safety activities.
HOMEWORK
Teachers set homework in accordance with our Homework Policy. Homework tasks will reinforce concepts already taught in class. Students are encouraged to borrow Take Home Books and Library Books regularly. Please encourage your child to complete The Premier’s Reading Challenge and return their recording sheet by September 1st so that the data can be entered online at school. Spelling lists and Maths homework, such as times tables, may also be sent home to be completed or revised.

We’re looking forward to another exciting and rewarding term working with your child. Please feel free to arrange a convenient time to speak to your child’s teacher if any issues arise during the term.

The Grade 3/4 teachers
Angela Pobjoy, Jeanette Kelm, Donna D’Souza and Julie Hewison

FROM THE SPECIALISTS

MUSIC- LUIS RIOS GONZALEZ
In term 3, students will perform different drama plays, in which they will explore the use of different voices, while improving their body awareness and literacy skills. They will continue singing in order to improve their pitch and rhythm. They will also be exploring basic music notation including the music staff, in order to perform melodies on tuned percussion instruments. Students will explore music from different cultures and places around the world.

ART- KARREN MONCUR
The children will create constructions out of boxes and plastic items. They will make a construction of their own choice and design, then a construction of a futuristic Melbourne. The children will then make a small fabric wall hanging. They will draw onto fabric, sew around it and then create a way to hang it on the wall.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION- LARA ARSANA
In Term 3, children in Grade 3/4 will be continuing to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills and their Sport Specific Skills by beginning the term with a Basketball unit. They will then participate in an AFL SEPEP program (Sport Education in Physical Education Programs) where they will experience organising their own competition. The children will play ‘Recreational Football’; a modified version of AFL that has been developed by the Australian Football League. Towards the end of term, the children will participate in a ‘Movement to Music’ unit that will explore a variety of dance styles, including Zumba.