Welcome to 2015! The students have settled in wonderfully so far into their new grades. We are all looking forward to a fantastic year.

This year, the Grade 3/4 team consists of:

**Stephanie Chan in Room 14**
**Julie Hewison in Room 15**
**Jeanette Kelm in Room 16**
**Adrian Parisi in Room 18**
**Kristian Carrocci / Hari Mathios (Friday) in Room 20**

Each year level in the school has specific work requirements and this information sheet will provide you with an overview of the work we will be covering in Grade 3/4 in Term 1. If you have any queries throughout the year about the work we are covering or your child’s progress, please contact the school to arrange a time to chat with your child’s teacher. We encourage your support and welcome your feedback.

**As part of our school’s Sun Smart & Safety Policy** students will need to wear a wide brimmed bottle green hat until **30 April** each year. It must be clearly labelled with your child’s full name and kept in good condition.

**HOME READING**

Take Home Reading books and Library books are available for borrowing. Students are encouraged to read at home nightly and we encourage parents to set aside some time to hear their child read on a regular basis. Just 15 minutes reading each night can make a big difference. The Home Reading Diary needs to be filled out so that the children can receive their reading certificate after every 25 nights of reading.

**LITERACY**

Once assessment of the students’ skills has been completed, they will be involved in small guided reading groups where a common text will be selected. Students will complete activities based on the texts to extend and develop their comprehension. Whole class reading activities will focus on Narrative text.

During writing sessions teachers will continue to use The Writing Model which was successfully implemented in 2014. The children will create a piece of descriptive text on the topic of Summer/The Beach, using a range of writing strategies.

**Grammar** will focus on the correct use of punctuation such as full stops, capital letters, commas and quotation marks. They will also learn rules to help with their spelling ability and revise high frequency words.
Formal **Handwriting** skills are regularly practised and encouraged. In grade 3, students will learn to begin to join letters correctly and Grade 4 students will aim for a pen licence later in the year.

**NUMERACY**
Our focus for this term will be on **Place Value** as this forms the basis of all understanding in numeracy. Students will focus on:
- counting, pattern & order, skip counting forwards and backwards
- number words and numerals, initially to 9 999 and then to 99 999
- automatic response to 20 (addition) and from 20 (subtraction)
- addition/regrouping tens
- basic fractions
- reading calendars, timetables & schedules
- identifying and naming 2D and 3D shapes
- interpreting data and making graphs.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES/SCIENCE**
The year will begin with the Lalor East Primary School **Start Up Program**. The variety of activities assists students in developing our classroom expectations and mission. The program helps students to establish the routine for the classroom and sets the tone for how each classroom will operate for the rest of the year. Although this is done at the beginning of the year, all aspects will be reinforced with students throughout the year.

The remainder of the term will be focussed on our Science topic called ‘Melting Moments’. Children will participate in a number of hands-on activities to develop their understanding of solids and liquids.

**ICT**
Students have a 1 hour session in the computer lab and 2 sessions using the netbooks and Surface Pro tablets in the classroom each week. These sessions will focus on developing the students’ skills in logging on to the computer with their own personal code, accessing their folders on the server and using the Microsoft Word and Publisher programs to develop their computer skills. The children will also learn ways to be cybersafe when using the internet.

**HOMEWORK**
Homework is set based on the guidelines set out in the Lalor East Homework policy. Take Home Reading will be the main homework this term. Later in the term other forms of homework such as spelling or completing any unfinished work may also be given out for children to complete.
**TERM 1 SPECIALIST TIMETABLE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>ART</th>
<th>MUSIC</th>
<th>P.E</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/4 STEPHANIE</td>
<td>MON 2:30</td>
<td>WED 2:30</td>
<td>WED 12:30</td>
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<td>Room 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 HEWISON</td>
<td>TUES 11:30</td>
<td>WED 12:30</td>
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<td>Room 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 KELM</td>
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<td>Room 16</td>
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<td>3/4 PARISI</td>
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<td>Room 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 KRISTIAN</td>
<td>TUES 12:30</td>
<td>WED 9:00</td>
<td>THURS 10:00</td>
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<td>Room 20</td>
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**We look forward to working with you to ensure your child achieves his/her personal best.**

**FROM THE SPECIALISTS**

**ART - Karren Moncur**
The children will start the year with a drawing unit. They will make a sketch book that will be used over the next few months. The children will be encouraged to draw something every art lesson. They will sketch trees and buildings and also draw from memory.
The children will end the term with a construction unit. From boxes and card, the children will create an item of their own choice. They will be challenged to make theirs look unique and as realistic as possible.

**MUSIC – Luis Rios-Gonzalez**
In term 1, students will be performing basic pieces of music in small percussion groups. They will be revisiting some basic forms of music notation to create and write their own music. Additionally, students will be exploring instruments commonly used in popular music (drum kit, guitar, keyboard, bass and ukulele), their sound qualities and the role they play in different music styles.

**PHYS/ED – Lara Arsana**
During Term 1 the Grade 3/4 students will be learning and participating in Athletic events. These events include: sprinting, long jump, high jump, hurdles, shot put, discus, triple jump and relays. Students will be completing specific drills for each event that are designed to improve their ability and technique.
Students who are turning 10 in 2015 will have the opportunity to try out for the District Athletics Carnival which will be held on **Wednesday 25 March**. Successful students will receive more information prior to the event.
Please send your child to school wearing runners or sneakers on their P.E. day as this is the most appropriate footwear for the Multipurpose Centre.