



2 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

YEAR 3 - TERM 1 OVERVIEW

Welcome to Year 3 2024. We are excited about the year ahead and we look forward to working in partnership with you. Our Year 3 theme for the year ahead is titled "Adventure Awaits" which will link to our first learning inquiry exploring countries around the world.

Class teachers for Year 3 are: Jane Mahar (3JM), Charlotte Felgate (3CF), Sharon Smith (3SS) and Jennifer Puleston (3JP). We are supported by our Executive, Amy Jager.

SCHOOL ROUTINES

We will have a health break at 10am every morning. Please provide your child with some fresh or dried fruit or sliced raw vegetables to eat at this time.

Every child needs to have a broad brimmed or legionnaire hat. We have a 'no hat, no play' rule because we are a Sun Smart School.

ENGLISH

The English program is designed to increase students' understanding in reading, writing, viewing, speaking and listening. We want our students to be able to construct and interact with print confidently. The various components of our balanced program include:

Writing - This term our writing focus will be on Information Reports. Students will participate in modelled, shared and independent writing as they work through the writing process.

Handwriting - Handwriting lessons will concentrate on modelling and practising letter formation and slope direction. Please be aware that the children's writing skills develop at vastly different rates. Some students will begin to learn pre-cursive writing whilst some will continue to build on their printing skills. All written work in Year 3 is completed in pencil.

Spelling - Students will participate in differentiated spelling activities as a regular component of the English program. They will continue to build on their knowledge of the four main strategies of:

- phonology,
- morphology,
- orthology and
- etymology.

Reading - Students will develop their skills in using a range of reading strategies and comprehension. Children will be assessed regularly to monitor their progress.

MATHEMATICS

In term one we will be investigating the key concepts of place value, addition, problem solving, 2D shapes and 3D objects, symmetry and time. You may help your child at home by practising timetables and basic addition and subtraction number facts regularly. We encourage families to make use of Mathletics (an online mathematics resource). This is a fantastic program and regular use of it will assist them with consolidating their mathematical knowledge.

HASS INQUIRY

Our Inquiry titled, 'What Makes Australia Unique?' will be our focus for this term. It will be based on the Humanities and Social Sciences curriculum. We will begin by exploring the states and territories of Australia as well as the unique natural and built features. We will also investigate the geography of Australia's neighbouring countries. Students will learn about the ways First Nations Australians in different parts of Australia are connected to Country/Place.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year 3 will refine the fundamental movement skills of striking, catching, throwing, and dodging and apply movement concepts and strategies in a variety of physical activities. A focus will be on developing these skills through participating in cricket and basketball lessons. The school swimming carnival will be held in week 8 and more information will be sent home shortly.

LIBRARY

Classes will be assigned a Library session each week which will be facilitated by their classroom teacher. Year 3 Library day is on Wednesday. Students will develop skills that help them to successfully find information to assist with their inquiry. Year 3 students can borrow up to three books at a time. The recommended texts for students this age are picture story books, non-fiction books and chapter book titles.

STEM

Year 3 will be starting the year with a cybersafety unit, looking at how they can be safe online. They will be developing their skills with Google Docs and Google Slides, using these applications to share their learning. Year 3 will be developing and using agreed protocols to collaborate on shared online tasks.

MUSIC

The Specialist Music Program will build upon music lessons in Year 2. Children will continue to work on pitching their voices, understanding rhythm and beat and reading musical notation. The children can now play 8 notes on the recorder and can read more complex conventions of musical notation. The children continue to learn to sing rounds and part songs. This year the Ukulele will also be introduced, and 3 chords will be learnt, so that songs we are learning to sing can be accompanied. There are also opportunities to use tuned and untuned percussion instruments. Music Appreciation is also covered, exposing the children to different types and styles of music.

INDONESIAN

During Term 1, students interact in classroom routines and structured interactions with teachers and peers and inquire into how people greet each other in both Australia and Indonesia. They will use modelled language to introduce themselves and others (friends/family) in Indonesian. Students will learn how to talk about where they come from and what class they are in.

SEL

Social and Emotional Learning: The program is conducted as a circle time lesson. This term we focus on our core Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL), and concepts from the Mind Up program (Mindfulness).

HOMEWORK

Optional homework will commence shortly. Homework will include a range of activities linked to classroom learning.

CHEERS AND CHAMPS

Each Friday, Year 3 will meet to congratulate the star pupils for the week. Cheers are awarded by teachers to any student who has exhibited outstanding examples of our classroom values. Champs will be given by students to another student of their choice for the same reason. This is a lovely opportunity for children to be acknowledged by both their teacher and peers alike.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1

- Week 2 – Wednesday 7 February - Parent Information Session
- Week 7 - Monday 11 March - Canberra Day
- Week 7 - Wednesday 13 - 15 March - NAPLAN
- Week 8 – Friday 22 March - Swimming Carnival
- Week 8 - Parent Teacher Interviews
- Week 9 - Good Friday
- Week 10 - Easter Monday
- Week 11 – Friday 12 April - Last day of Term 1

We're looking forward to seeing out a wonderful year with our amazing students.

Kind regards,

Jane Mahar, Jenny Puleston, Sharon Smith, Charlotte Felgate and Amy Jager (Team Leader)

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