

Grade 3 Newsletter

Miss Hickling

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Term 1, 2020

Literacy

Reading workshops are underway in grade 3 where we have started learning about how to pick 'Just Right' books and how to read to ourselves and to someone else.

Reading workshops will continue throughout the term with focuses on elements of texts and how we can interpret this information in preparation for NAPLAN in term 2.

This term in Writing we will be starting with a focus on narrative writing before moving into persuasive writing later in the term. The use of VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers, Punctuation) will be integrated into our program, encouraging students to up-level their writing using more interesting language and sentence structure.

Numeracy

This term in Mathematics we will have a weekly focus on number skills including place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Outside of Number, we will be exploring measurement, time and shape.

We will also be working on our problem solving skills using our whole school approach called CUBES. CUBES assists students to break down worded maths problems to simplify what the question is asking and guide them towards choosing a strategy to solve. The strategy we will work on this term is: use a number line and look for a pattern.

Upcoming Events

Hockey Clinic - 14th February

Meet the Teacher - 24th & 25th February

Mad About Science Incursion - 25th February

Labour Day Holiday - 9th March

Curriculum Day - 10th March

School Photos - 17th March

Family Fun Night - 19th March

National Day of Action Against Violence and Bullying - 20th March

Homework

Homework expectations this year for Grade 3 each week will be:

- * **Complete at least 4 nights of reading with a minimum of 1 hour over the week.**
- * **Complete 3 set Mathletics tasks**
- * **Practise spelling words using activities grid (3 times a week)**

Homework will be sent home on Mondays and must be returned Fridays. Homework club will run every Friday afternoon for those who need the additional time to complete set tasks. Reading can continue over the weekend and can be recorded for the following week.

Specialist timetable

Grade 3s will attend Mandarin, PE and Visual Arts on Wednesdays and Science lessons are on Monday and Thursday. Grade 3 Sport for all classes will be on Tuesday. We will all visit the library on Friday.

	Mandarin	PE	Visual Arts	Science
3T	9:50am	11:10am	9:00am	Thursday 1:50pm
3H	9:00am	9:50am	11:10am	Monday 2:40pm
3K	11:10am	9:00am	9:50am	Monday 1:50pm

CLASS DOJO

Class Dojo is a tool for tracking behaviour and communicating class information, photos and direct messaging between teacher and parents. It is a free app, or can be used online. Forms have been sent home with instructions to sign up and log into your child's class account. It is advised that you take advantage of this tool to keep in touch with what occurs in the classroom throughout the year. Please remember teachers will respond to messages during work hours. Please continue to utilise Compass or contact the office for absences, late arrivals or early pick-ups.



PARENT HELPERS

If you have an interest in assisting in the classroom during the morning session, please see your classroom teacher. Please note that you are required to attend our Parent Helpers Course (only if you haven't done this previously). Please make sure your 'Working with Children' card details are at the office. If you require a WWC, you can apply online or visit your local Post Office. <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> This will also be needed when attending excursions.

UNIT OF INQUIRY

Our first Unit of Inquiry for the year is 'Our body is a network of systems that requires a healthy lifestyle to function effectively' under the Transdisciplinary Theme of Who We Are.

We have begun the unit with comparing the human body with other systems. This led us to making similarities and differences between them. We have started exploring the skeleton and other systems in the human body. The students have come up with their own wonderings about the topic and will research how these systems keep us healthy.

We will continue to explore this unit guided by the following lines of inquiry:

- **The purpose and function of body systems**
- **The signs of a healthy body**
- **The impact of lifestyle choices on the body**

We are looking forward to our Mad About Science incursion on the 25th February to explore the human body and its systems.

FRUIT SNACK

Please send your child to school with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable for fruit snack that can be had in the classroom. Having this separate to their lunchbox will make it easily accessible on tables in the morning. Please also provide a water bottle for easy hydration.



COMPUTERS

Thank you for returning your ICT Acceptable Use Policy forms so quickly. This has allowed our students to access online educational activities quickly.

We have created our own superheroes to begin our Esmart journey this year, to encourage making good choices when online.

The students will have opportunities to explore websites called Dreamscape and Mathletics to enhance our reading and maths skills. My Numeracy, in Essential Assessment, we will provide the students with personalised learning activities based on their point of need in maths.