

GRADE 3 NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GRADE 3?

TERM 3

In spite of the return to remote learning, the Year 3 students have had an excellent start to Term 3! Students have shown a tremendous amount of resilience and a terrific ability to respond to change! Well Done Year 3s!

We know that these snap lockdowns are difficult for everyone and we truly appreciate our parent community for their ongoing understanding and support, not only for your children but also for us teachers!

*We couldn't do it without you!
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*



SPECIALIST CLASSES

This term, Year 3 Students have started Performing Arts Specialist classes and are already practising for the School's end of year Christmas Concert! This will be a fun time to celebrate with the SNPS Community so be sure to mark your calendars for Tuesday 14th December!

Year 3 Students will continue with Mandarin, PE and Visual Arts specialist classes, as in Semester 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Term 3

- School Swimming at PARC: August 2nd - August 6th
(3H & 3S 1:30 - 2:15 3K & 3T 2:15 - 3:00)

Term 4

- Grade 3/4 Camp at Phillip Island Adventure Resort: November 29th - December 1st
(Camp is currently being planned and more information will be sent out soon)
- SNPS End of Year Concert: December 14th

READING

As always, a main focus in Reading is 'Reading for Comprehension'. During class time, we explicitly teach comprehension strategies, including the following examples pictured on the right.

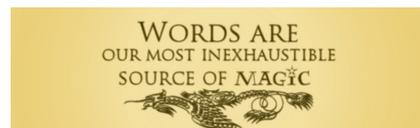
We encourage students to practise these strategies every time they read, so you might also encourage them at home as well! In Reading this term, we are investigating different text 'genres'. Reading different text genres expands the reader's world by exposing them to a variety of perspectives as well as extending their vocabulary and basic literacy knowledge!

Visualising	Creating pictures or a movie in your head while reading
Accessing our schema	Making links with what we're reading to previous knowledge or experiences
Checking that we are understanding what we're reading	Periodically pausing to make sure we understood what we've read
Backing up and re-reading	Re-reading words, sentences, paragraphs or pages of text when we realise something doesn't make sense to us
Asking questions before, during and after reading	<p>Before: Asking questions about what we're getting ready to read before we start reading: – <i>this allows us to make predictions about what we're going to be reading and then looking for answers to our questions while reading</i></p> <p>During: Revising previous questions and asking new ones while we're reading as more information is provided through the text</p> <p>After: Asking questions when we're finished reading to consolidate information and to predict what might happen next</p>

WRITING

This term we are exploring Information Reports and will be linking some of the learning for this text type to our Unit of Inquiry. The learning will include the purpose, structure and language of information reports as well as improving research skills.

A great way to assist students with their writing development at home is to engage them in discussions that challenge their thinking and encourage them to express their ideas. It is important for students to have opportunities to share their perspectives, provide details that support their thinking, rationalise their opinions and consider other people's points of view. As these verbal skills develop more effectively, they will naturally transfer to their written expression.



THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

As an ongoing practice, the Year 3s regularly focus on 'mindfulness'. We do this in a variety of ways including meditation, mindful observing, listening, colouring and drawing. Mindfulness helps students to manage their impulsivity, calm their nerves, cool their temper and focus on their learning more effectively. Some students have made mindful jars at home during lockdown to help them at home to manage stress and even sleep!

We are currently exploring the concept of 'empathy' and how having empathy for others can help build positive relationships.

MATHS

This term, we are planning some of our maths lessons in response to the Tokyo Olympic Games. These games provide ample opportunities for maths learning, specifically in the area of measurement and geometry. We will also be learning about the link between multiplication and division.

To assist your child with their maths learning at home, you can help them develop their recall of times tables (in particular 2's, 3's, 5's & 10's). Some students are still consolidating their basic number knowledge, so helping them learn the following strategies will build their confidence and improve their capacity to solve more challenging maths concepts: facts to 10 and number bonds, doubling and halving, skip counting by a specified number, etc.

Playing card, dice and board games are excellent ways to help students improve their maths understandings. Other ways to engage in maths learning include 'real-life' experiences like cooking, gardening, building and shopping, to name a few.

INQUIRY

The first two weeks of this term, students completed our Unit of Inquiry 'Sharing the Planet'. They explored how our personal and shared values create opportunities within a natural environment. Students investigated this concept by identifying and discussing how people use nature to promote personal and community well-being. They then created a 'mood board' to show how we can engage in nature to promote well-being. These mood boards are intended to contribute to the creation of an outdoor mindfulness/well-being space within the school! Here are some examples:



Our next Unit of Inquiry will focus on exploration, in its wider contexts, and the discoveries, possibilities and new understandings that are generated when we explore. Students will learn about some previous, historical explorers, including those who participated in the settlement of Australia.