

Year 3 & 4 Term 3 News

Welcome back to a new term. We trust that you had an enjoyable winter break and hopefully enjoyed the quiet start to the day. We are half-way through the year but still have so much to discover and learn.

Our 3/4 team enjoyed sharing the success of your child reaching mid-year goals and their learning during Parent Teacher Interviews. Please remember that our doors are open for more discussions about your child's progress or celebrations you are having at home. Sometimes the smallest piece of information can add greatly to the 'big picture'. You can contact us by dropping into the classroom or emailing us. We are more than happy to keep the 'doors of communication open' and maintain a partnership on your child's development.

This term we are approaching the newsletter with a practical approach on how to help your child. It will give you insight to what your child will be learning and how to assist your child with making connections and sharing their knowledge with you. Please feel free to email us your thoughts.

Reading

- The Nook is open before or after school Monday to Thursday where Mrs Martin is more than willing to help with suggested texts and borrow books out for you.
- The homework policy states that your child is to read 15 minutes each night. Break it up with 5 minutes reading to you or a sibling so they can develop their expression and 10 minutes independently. Remember that reading stories repeatedly develops their recognition of words and fluency. Favourite picture books are great for this.
- Take some time out to enjoy a story together. Perhaps read a page each. You make fabulous role models!
- Reading doesn't have to be just novels or picture books. There is a great website produced from the Herald Sun with news just for kids where it has an article from the daily news for them to read and an audio version to listen to. Just click on the hyperlink and it will direct you there - [Herald Sun for Kids](#)
- Visit the zoo or museum and have your child read the information plaques.
- Read cookbooks or search sites for recipes and have your child read the directions on how to bake or cook a meal. Also, a great activity for developing measurement skills.
- Read comics from the newspaper or books.
- Investigate and read biographies about their favourite authors.
- Help your child research Australia's history.
- Read eBooks. Literacy Planet has a selection of books for your child's reading level.
- Talk to them about your reading!
- All of these above ideas teach your child that reading isn't something we just do because we are told we have to but is 'real' and something we do without thinking, like reading road signs.
- When all of this is done, don't forget to have your child record what they have read in their diary. Every little bit of reading counts!

Writing

- The only homework expectation to be completed in writing is spelling.
- Please ensure that your child is entering the 'tasks' section of Literacy Planet on their Chromebooks and completes all set activities.

The focus on writing will be 'Writing to Inform' and we will be investigating the significant people that helped build Australia as a diverse, nurturing nation. We will be introducing the students to note taking from web sites about Australian settlement and Mary MacKillop.

From this note taking they will learn how to put all their information into paragraphs. In this case, outlining the person's significance and contribution to Australia.

Another way you can help is to ask your child which significant person they are researching and ask them facts about that person. Ask to read their informative texts which they will be writing on their Chromebooks.

Numeracy

- A great way to know what your child is currently learning in maths is through Mathematics. Each fortnight the homework is set to correlate to the unit of work studied in the classroom.
- Activities you can do to make maths real at home in a fun and engaging way are:
 1. Play riddle games incorporating number: "I am an odd number between 1 - 11 and can be divided by 3. What number am I?"
 2. Help your child learn the times tables. There are great table songs on Rainforest Maths in Mathematics and YouTube to help.
 3. When driving the kids around look at the number plate on the car in front and have your child add the numbers together quickly or multiple the first two numbers together.
 4. Have a scavenger hunt at home to find the biggest number that is in your home. For example, multiply the letter box numbers together, look at the water meter
 5. Ask your child to read an analogue clock to the minute to give you the time.
 6. When giving your child instructions or directions give them a time frame using the clock. For example, "when it is a quarter to 5 you will need to set the table. How much time do you have to play till then?"
 7. Pace out the perimeter of a footy oval or your yard to develop their skills in measuring perimeter using informal measuring tools.
 8. Talk about how you cut up a cake/pizza so everyone has an equal share and ask them what fraction of the cake they will get to eat. For example, "If I cut the cake into 6 pieces and you get 1, what is the fraction?" Answer - $\frac{1}{6}$
 9. Discuss what the chances are that it is likely to rain or have a party using the terms unlikely, possible, or likely/certain.

Inquiry/Religion

Our unit of work is on the history and geography of Australia.

Our goals for the unit are:

- Create a timeline of the significant stages of early settlement.
- Investigates the life of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people before white man settlement.
- Explains the significance of the First Fleet's journey to Australia and the effects on our land.
- Identifies people of historical significance in Australian Settlement.
- Describes perspectives of people from the past. For example researching a diary about a person in history.
- Presents an oral presentation on a biography on a significant Australian during Settlement.
- Identifies significant examples of change in our local community.
- Identifies significant days and weeks celebrated in Australia.
- Investigates and compare what it would be like to live in a climate different to their own.
- Know the symbols and emblems of Australia.
- Identifies the seven states and territories of Australia.

That's only touching on the surface!

Our Religious component of the unit will focus on the history of the leaders of our early church especially significant leaders as the church was established in Australia. We will investigate how the church was formed and who were the significant leaders in our church history who helped others driven and motivated by their beliefs in their Catholic faith. We will look at Mary MacKillop in particular. Other people we will investigate are: Nano Nagle, Saint Elizabeth, Mary - mother of Jesus, Caroline Chisholm, Bishop Polding, St. Vincent de Paul, Fred Hollows, Charles Perkins and Douglas Nicholas. We will look at how they made a difference and how we can follow in their footsteps.

Lastly, we will be investigating scripture and how to find passages in the bible using chapters and verses.

Special announcements

Soon you will be notified about your child's role in Cross Arts and items they will require for the production. The production night is the 15th of August. If you haven't purchased tickets and need a new order form visit Lisa in the office who will have more on her stands.

Also, you will be notified (closer to the date) via Care Monkey for permission for your child to attend an excursion at the Arts Centre and National Art Gallery visit. We will be watching **JUNK** which is a new show from Australia's world-famous national youth circus. If you would like to know more about the production we are attending simply click on the hyperlink [JUNK](#).

Regards,

3/4teachers.

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Special Dates

Date/Time	Event	Venue
<u>JULY</u>		
Friday 21st	Interschool Athletics	Ross Reserve
Thursday 27th	3/4 SO Reconciliation	Church
<u>Monday 31st</u>	<u>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY</u>	
<u>AUGUST</u>		
Thursday 3rd	3/4 DP Reconciliation	Church
Thursday 10th	3/4 HP Reconciliation	Church
Monday 14th	Cross Arts Rehearsal	PAC
Tuesday 15th	Whole School Mass - Holy Day of Obligation	Church
Tuesday 15th	Cross Arts Night	PAC
Thursday 17th	3/4 RM Reconciliation	Church
Friday 25th	Book Week Celebrations	
Thursday 31st	Father's Day Stall	Nook
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>		
Friday 8th	Buddy Mass	Church
Thursday 21st	Arts Centre Excursion	City
Friday 22nd	Last day of term	