

Grade 3/4 Newsletter

Term 1, 2024

Teacher: Mr James

Welcome back to Term 1 2024 everyone! We have had such a brilliant start to the school year as we have settled into our new 3/4 classroom alongside new peers, our legendary new E.S Bridie and got to know each other better by jumping straight back into our core learning for the last couple of weeks! Our awesome students have been busy taking great ownership and pride in their learning environment, setting up the classroom and adding their own ideas through their proud wall, class culture quilt, class jobs, "calm corner" and gratitude 'Dis' wall. They have also been brainstorming many ideas for the year ahead and we look forward to seeing their passion and student voice shine through.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or any questions or concerns throughout the year, please feel free to make a time to talk to me by sending a Compass email or by writing a note in the student diary.



Literacy

This term in Literacy we are focusing on establishing expectations and routine within our English program. We further our work with substantive talk and utilising 'turn and talk buddies', small group and whole class conversations to foster the art of sharing ideas, politely agreeing or disagreeing with

another.

In Reading, students will continue to develop their comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary skills through explicit teaching focus lessons, independent reading opportunities and clinics. They will continue to select good fit books that suit the purpose of their reading, particularly for reading at home. This term in Reading we will be focusing on the reading process and launching reader's workshops as well as exploring the world of imaginative texts in the second half of Term 1. Excitingly, we have started to read 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' as a whole class with our fantastic Ed Connect Volunteers, Peter and Sue.

In Writing, the focus genre is narrative and persuasive texts. We will be reading and viewing different examples of this text type and following the writing process to create our own writing pieces in these genres, having already completed a dictation and narrative writing sample in week 2. For writing, we will be launching our writer's workshops, reviewing the world of narratives and writing to entertain and persuade in the second half of the term.

Building on the skills and practices of goal setting from previous years, students will track their personal goals for reading and writing through learning goal templates and class goal boards. They then need to be ready to present evidence of working toward their goals during individual reading conferences with me. The Seesaw app will continue to be used for this purpose, to share progress on these goals.

Our daily Word Work sessions will focus on vocabulary specific to current topics of Inquiry, Maths and other areas of our learning. Academic vocabulary is also a focus for word work words. Students self-assess their understandings of the words, explore the meaning of the words, analyse word parts and synthesise their understanding over each fortnight. We are also weaving in IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet), and etymology to aid articulation and spelling during word work.

Word Work sessions will be conducted on a Monday for a half an hour before lunch as well as incorporated into their relevant lessons.



Numeracy

Our topic for Number this term is **Place Value**, with our applied topic being **Units of Measurement**. Lessons will follow our regular lesson model of Warm up, Explicit Teaching, Independent Work/ Clinic and Reflection with a Challenging Maths Task implemented regularly throughout the week following our 'Launch/ Explore/ Discuss' model.

It is really important for students at this stage to be confident when recalling multiplication facts and there are many great resources to practise this recall (songs, Mathletics live, MyNumeracy games) that your child can use at home. Students can access their Maths learning goals through Seesaw. These will guide their work in class but will also align with MyNumeracy activities that they can access while at home.

Our Maths Work sessions are incorporated into the lessons and focus on solving a variety of Maths problems through our new '20 days of Maths' framework. During these sessions, students can

learn, explore and apply problem solving strategies such as drawing diagrams, working backwards and creating tables to help scaffold their thinking and problem solving (see example prompts below).

Day 2 - Everyone Can Learn Math!

Task: Ring a Ring of Numbers

Choose four of the numbers from this list: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 to put in the squares so that the difference between joined squares is odd.

Only one number is allowed in each square. You must use four different numbers.

What do you notice about the numbers in the squares?

What can you say about the sum of each pair of joined squares?

Find as many different solutions as possible and record on the [recording sheet](#).



Day 4 - Building a Math Talk Community

Task: Building Shapes

You may build the shapes in any order you choose.



Day 1 - Everyone Can Learn Math!

Task: Jumping Joey

Kimmy the kangaroo and her joey, Jimmy, jumped from their home to the banana tree. The distance from their home to the banana tree is 36 metres.

How many jumps would Jimmy make if each of his jumps were 2 metres long?



These sessions aim to further translate students' understanding of concepts and skills to real life applications in order to enhance their numeracy.

Inquiry

This term students will be exploring the inquiry topic of 'Belonging in our Community'. As a class, we will be focusing on important concepts such as belonging, acceptance, community and our place within our various local communities, targeting the 'Civic & Citizenship' area of the curriculum.

Inquiry will take place on every Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.



Values

This term we will continue to follow the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Curriculum. Through this, we will explore the topic of Emotional Literacy. We will also be incorporating Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness through the 'Resilience Project' in our Wellbeing curriculum again this year.

Each student has received their own 'Resilience Project' journal to practice and promote positive mental health strategies to build resilience.

Uniform

TOP CHOICES	BOTTOM CHOICES	ADDITIONAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Checked dress• Short or long sleeve sky blue or navy blue polo top with school emblem• Two tone sky blue and navy blue windcheater• Navy Blue bomber jacket• Year 6 commemorative short sleeve top and windcheater	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy and white check short• Navy skort• Navy shorts-no emblems	White or navy socks Plain black or white sneakers or black school shoes Ceres Navy blue logo hat-quick release strap

Dates to Remember

19th Feb: House Colours Day

26th Feb: Pupil Free Day

29th Feb: SSA Soccer (select grade 4 students)

March 4th-8th: Swimming Program

11th March: LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

25th March: SSA 3-6 Cross Country

13th March: School Photos

13th-25th March: NAPLAN

15th March: Parents open afternoon 2-2:30 (Brief assembly to follow @2:30)

19th March: School Council AGM & School Council meeting

28th March: End of Term 1, 2pm finish

Please refer to Compass for the most up-to-date reminders and events as they are subject to change.

Specialist Timetable

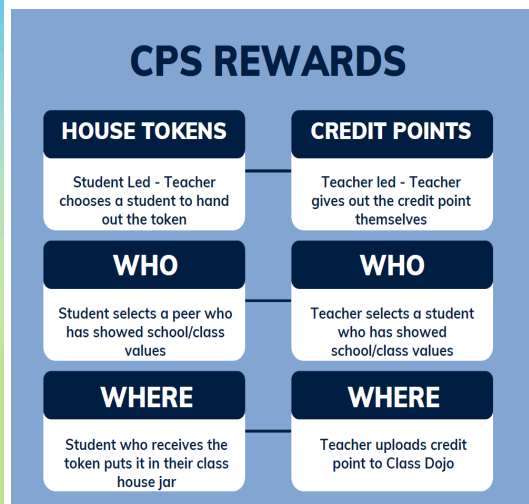
3/4 J Timetable

	8:45-9:45	9:45-10:45		11:10-12:10		12:10-1:10		2-3
Monday	Reading	Writing		Maths		Word Work		Inquiry
Tuesday	Reading	Writing		Maths		Maths		Reading
Wednesday	Reading	Writing		Maths		Writing		Values
Thursday	Reading	Writing		Art		Maths		Inquiry
Friday	Odd- MARC	Cultural		STEM		PE		Assembly
	Resilience Project							Inquiry

Diaries

We ask that all students have purchased our awesome, new Resilience Project diary, a vital tool used throughout the day for notes, communication, GEM wellbeing check ins, reading nights and other key organisational details. A huge thankyou to those families who have already purchased a 2024 school diary! Please contact the office for more information.

New Houses



Mr James Meeting times

I am in meetings and unavailable at the following times:

Monday	3.20pm- 4:20pm	Professional Learning Community Meeting
Tuesday	3.20pm- 4:20pm	Professional Learning Team Meeting
Wednesday	3:20pm- 4:20pm	Staff Briefing/ Wellbeing Meeting

Kelly Club

- Before and after school care program held at Ceres Primary School.
- Will still be operating before school for the remainder of Term 1.



Organisation Reminders

- We ask that students all students arrive at school by 8.40 so that they have time to set up their desk, put their diary out, and be ready for independent reading at 8:45.
- A reminder that supervision time starts at 8.35.
- Students with BYOD iPads are to bring them to school every day - fully charged.
- If picking up or dropping off your child during class time please sign them in/out at the office. A staff member will call their classroom to make their way up to the office.
- If you are parked on the other side of the carpark, please ensure your child crosses the road safely. We also remind you that the carpark is on a major arterial road and that parking in the left hand turning lane puts everyone's safety at risk.
- Assemblies are now held each fortnight at 2:30pm on a Friday: This term's dates are: Feb 16th, March 1st, March 15th and March 28th (Thursday- Last Day of Term 1)



Disclaimer: Staff at Ceres Primary School access their work emails between 8:35am - 4:15pm and will endeavour to respond within 48 hours. Staff are not expected to respond in this timeframe during weekends, public holidays and term breaks.