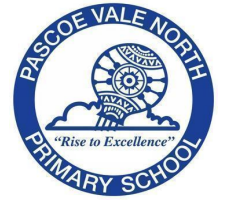


# Pascoe Vale North Primary School



## Grade 3/4 Term 1, 2024

### Newsletter and Curriculum News

Welcome back to school for 2024! We are very much looking forward to working with you this year to support your child through their 2024 learning journey. It has been a busy start to the year with our Ready to Learn program that ensures all students transition into the year in a smooth and settled way.

We have lots of exciting events and learning experiences to look forward to this year, in particular our camp in Term 4 to Sovereign Hill in Term 4. We will be going to camp in Term 4 from the 7th to 9th of October. More information on costs and payment dates will be sent home later this term.

As it is the beginning of a new school year, we would like to kindly remind all families to please make sure your student's belongings are clearly labelled to help keep track of them. Term 1 is a SunSmart term therefore hats are essential! No hats, No play, No fun today.

The Grade 3/4s are continuing to run our Nude Food program, which encourages all students in the school to have a wrapper free lunch box everyday, and to only have reusable containers.

#### From the Grade 3/4 team:

Samira Abou-Eid- 3/4A

Sarah Cotton - 3/4B

Denise Diamantopoulos - 3/4C (Team Leader)

Natasha McKenna - 3/4D

Monique Jones - 3/4E

### Important Dates for Term 1

Dates	What's on?
Tuesday 30th January	Students first day of Term 1
Friday 9th February	Ready to Learn Celebration afternoon
Wednesday 14th - Thursday 15th February	Meet the Teacher Nights
Thursday 22nd February	Welcome Picnic
Wednesday 28th February	3-4's Incursion - Democracy, Community and Me
Monday 4th March	Colour Run
Tuesday 5th March	Proposed date for Oscar Yildiz's school visit
Monday 11th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
March 13-19 March	NAPLAN
Wednesday 20th March	School Photos
Thursday 29th March	Final day of Term 1 - 2:15 dismissal

# Discovery Learning

In Term 1, the students will explore Civics and Citizenship through inquiring into what democracy is and how the democratic process works. They will look into the roles and responsibilities of local council and how things happen in our community.

We will be taking a hands-on, community based approach to our Discovery Unit with special visitors, an incursion from the local council and later in the term, we will be getting out into the community to explore council landmarks and resources.

Students will create a discovery question around mid-term. Teachers will encourage and scaffold students' abilities in researching and answering their questions in detail. Students will take part in flexible, creative and critical thinking to answer their question in a way that represents their interests, capabilities and strengths.

# Reading

## OVERVIEW

In 3/4 Area, students are expected to spend **at least 30 minutes reading** their Home Reader or novel of their choice at home each night. The novel of their choice could be a library book or their own novel from home. Students are expected to record the books/novels they have read and completed in their Home Reading Log. Students visit the library every week where they are allowed to borrow 4 library books, their loans last 2 weeks. Students will bring home readers home each week.

### Reading strategies that we will focus on this term:

- Summarising text.
- Making connections to texts.
- Identifying similarities and differences between texts.
- Understanding authors' techniques.
- Analysing how the author creates mood in the texts we read.
- Analysing authors' language choices to describe characters and settings.

# Writing

## OVERVIEW

In Grade 3/4, students will be learning how to use paragraphs and punctuation correctly such as full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, speech marks and commas. Students will focus on deepening their understanding of different text types, their structures and features such as imaginative and persuasive.

## **TOPICS COVERED THIS TERM:**

### **Persuasive**

Persuasive texts are used to persuade others to accept a particular point of view. Students will be practising using language features of a persuasive text such as emotive language and modal verbs. They will be following the structure of a persuasive text and write persuasive texts to convince their classmates to agree with their point of view.

### **Narrative**

The purpose of narratives is to tell or narrate a sequence of events involving characters who face a problem. Narratives can be presented in picture story books, comic or cartoon format, simple short stories or longer stories with complicated plots. Students will be working towards writing their own Narrative story and publishing it in their chosen format.

### **Recount**

Recounts describe experiences by telling or writing about a series of events that occurred in order of how and when they occurred. Recounts can be personal, factual or imaginary. They can be written in many ways, such as letters, articles, journal entries and even poems.

# Mathematics

## **OVERVIEW**

In Grade 3/4, students will expand their knowledge of the strands of Mathematics (Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space and Statistics) through exploring a range of concepts through hands-on experiences. Teachers aim to engage students in real-world, relatable maths problems so that students understand the purpose for maths learning in their own lives.

Teachers will encourage students to use the 4 Proficiencies (Fluency, Understanding, Reasoning and Problem Solving) so that they are using deep thinking strategies when solving a range of problems. Students will spend time working both in groups and independently to foster their understanding of mathematical concepts. Term 1 topics include:

- Place Value: Whole numbers, Odd and Even
- Fractions and Decimals
- Data Representation

# Homework

## **OVERVIEW:**

Students are expected to bring their homework folders in every Friday for their teacher to check their learning. We encourage students to take responsibility for keeping on track with their homework, as this builds independence and organisational skills.

## **READING:**

Please encourage your child to read for a minimum of 30 minutes every night. This could be independent reading or reading aloud to an adult, as well as discussing the text to build comprehension skills. Students may choose to read a novel of their choice or text which they are able to read independently. We encourage students to record this in their Home Reading Log, which should be kept in their homework folder. Students are also able to complete My Literacy activities on Essential Assessment to supplement their reading each night.

## **SPELLING:**

Our Phonics and Spelling Program, PLD, from the Junior school will be implemented into Grades 3 & 4 this year. Students will learn words from their individual spelling list. Students will practise their spelling words during the week for homework, to prepare for Dictation and Dictation Detective tasks on Fridays. A spelling placement test will occur once each term to determine their individual spelling lists for a term.

## **MATHEMATICS:**

Students complete My Numeracy activities on Essential Assessments. They are encouraged to practise their times tables and number facts to help with fluency in Maths lessons.