



## Grade 2/3 Newsletter

Term 2, 2025

Teachers: Mr James & Miss Willis

ES: Chelsea (2/3 J) & Bridie (2/3 W)

Welcome back to Term 2!

We hope you all enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing school holiday. It's been great to see everyone return with such enthusiasm, settled and ready for another fantastic term of learning and growth. We're looking forward to an exciting Term 2, filled with new topics, challenges, and opportunities for our students to shine.

Thank you once again for your continued support—it truly helps in creating a strong foundation for learning in our classrooms. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to discuss anything further, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You're welcome to come and chat with us at the gate or send a message via Compass to arrange a time.

- Mr James, Miss Willis, Chelsea and Bridie



## 150th Year

This term, we are celebrating 150 years of Ceres Primary School! It's an exciting milestone, and we can't wait to bring our school community together to celebrate. There will be special events, activities, and opportunities to reflect on our school's rich history.

Stay tuned for more details—we look forward to celebrating with you all!

## Morning routine

Term 2 is all about building on from our great first term and continuing to develop great habits, learning routines and expectations. Students can enter the school and classroom between 8:35-8:45am to unpack their bags, set up for the day, and then head outside to play. If arriving earlier, they must wait in

the bus shelter area until supervision begins at 8:35am. On wet days, students can play inside under teacher supervision.

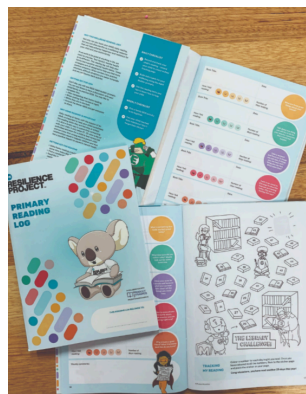
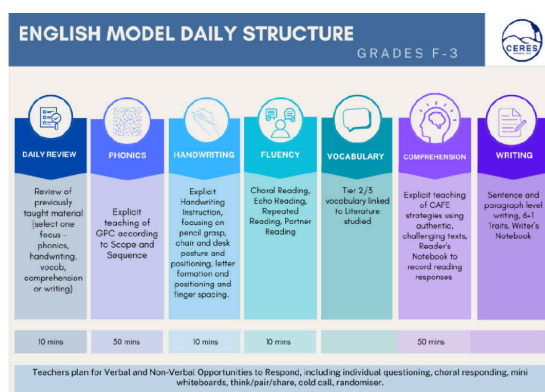
We encourage independence by having students enter the classroom on their own and complete their morning jobs. As the term progresses, we ask parents to drop off at the door or bus shelter to support this transition. If your child needs extra support, please reach out to their teacher so we can work on a plan together. As always, we appreciate your support.

## Assembly

Every second Friday at 2:30pm, we have our school assembly. Families are welcome to come along and support our 2/3 students—it makes them so happy to see you there! Each assembly, some students from our class share what we've been learning. If your child is getting an award, your teacher will let your family know. Awards include Principal Awards, Stretch the Brain Awards, Aussie of the Month and GEM Awards (Resilience Project). We can't wait to see you there!

## English

This year, our English program has undergone exciting changes in line with the new Victorian Curriculum 2.0. Unlike previous years, where we dedicated one lesson each to Reading and Writing, we are now implementing a comprehensive 2-hour English block that integrates all aspects of Literacy. Our new English blocks will cover daily reviews, phonics, handwriting, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing, giving our students a well-rounded approach to language development.



Students are strongly encouraged to read daily at home to support their literacy development. To assist with this, we have introduced great new reading logs, created by The Resilience Project, which include a daily reflection. These reflections incorporate our GEM principles of Gratitude, Empathy, and Mindfulness, providing students with a valuable opportunity to engage not only with their literacy skills but also with their emotional wellbeing. This initiative promotes a balanced and holistic approach to learning. Additionally we celebrate students reading nights with certificates starting at 25 reading nights!

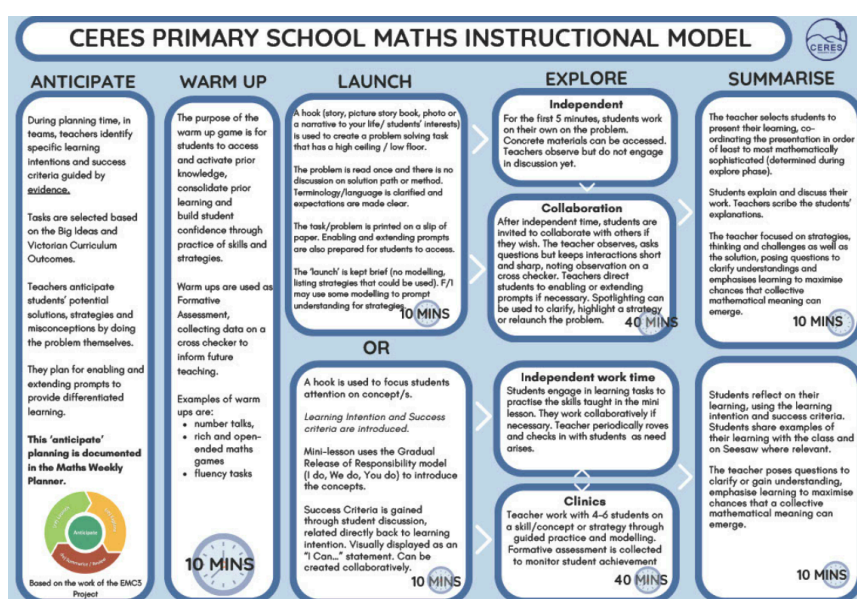
## Maths

This term in Maths, our learning will focus on key areas including **Addition and Subtraction**, understanding and applying **Operations**, exploring **Statistics and Data** through collection and interpretation, and investigating **Measurement and Time** in real-world contexts. Each topic will provide students with opportunities to build fluency, deepen their understanding, and apply skills in meaningful ways.

We will also continue to build confidence, curiosity, and creativity when tackling mathematical challenges through problem-solving tasks, where students will explore and apply a range of strategies to support their thinking.

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 basic addition and subtraction sums 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.



## Inquiry

This year, our Inquiry learning will explore a range of engaging topics that connect to different curriculum areas, encouraging curiosity, critical thinking, and hands-on experiences.

In Term 2, we will dive into our school's rich **history** as we celebrate its 150th anniversary. Students will learn about changes over time, personal and community histories, and how our local environment has evolved. As the term progresses, students will have the opportunity to dive into a range of historical artefacts and activities. If you or anyone you know has any interesting knowledge or material about Ceres over time, particularly our school, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Term 3 will focus on **biological science** and living things, their life cycles, and the ways they interact with their environment. Students will explore native plants and animals, linking their learning to sustainability projects within the school.

To finish the year, students will focus on **health**, wellbeing, and personal development in Term 4. They will explore topics such as nutrition, physical activity, and emotional wellbeing while continuing their environmental efforts to enhance our school grounds.

Throughout the year, our environmental focus will be woven into each topic, encouraging students to take pride in their school and make a positive impact on their surroundings. We look forward to an exciting year of learning and discovery!

### **Values and Resilience Project**

Values lessons are a highlight of our Mondays! Each afternoon, we dive into our exciting new 3 R's: Respect, Resilience, and Responsibility. These engaging sessions complement our Respectful Relationships curriculum, making learning both fun and meaningful!

Additionally we have our Resilience Project lessons, happening every second Thursday (see the timetable below). Each student will be working on their very own 'Resilience Project' journal.

Teachers and students will come together for fun, engaging lessons and activities every two weeks, focusing on the key principles of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness (GEM), and Emotional Literacy to build that all-important resilience!

Check out their website for more information:

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/>



### **Fruit Snack**

Due to some small timetable adjustments, students will now be eating their fruit snack during the morning session. As part of their morning routine, they'll need to have their fruit snack ready on their table at the start of each day. To make this easier, we recommend keeping fruit whole or packing it in a separate container. This will help students enjoy their brain food quickly and easily.

Thanks for your support!

### **Walk Safely 2 School Day**

Join us as we take part in the National Walk Safely to School Day for 2025 on Friday 16th May. National Walk Safely to School Day is celebrated annually to encourage primary school children to walk to and from school safely and regularly. This year, the day is on Friday, May 16 2025. The event promotes healthy habits, reduces transport pollution, and improves road safety awareness

Departing from Frank Mann Reserve at 8:20am on Friday 16th May, we will be making the hike down to school in recognition of this important National event. A number of our Ceres staff members will be walking to school safely and we would love it if many of our students, families and wider community members could join us!

### **Seesaw**



We use the SeeSaw app to keep you informed about what we do at school. On SeeSaw, we share students' weekly spelling words, their spelling tests, learning tasks, and fun updates on our activities. We invite you to get involved by liking and commenting on student posts, cheering them on for their hard work and achievements. This collaboration helps strengthen the connection between home and school, fostering a supportive learning environment for our students.

### **ICT & iPads**

Please ensure iPads are brought to school everyday, charged and in a protective case. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

### **Houses**

At Ceres Primary School, we have two houses—Lok Lok Eagles (Yellow) and Kanyul Kangaroos (Green). Students earn tokens for their house by showing our school values, whether in the classroom or out in the yard. Every fortnight at assembly, our house captains share the latest token tally, keeping the competition fun and exciting! Throughout the year, students will take part in house activities like sports, learning challenges, and more. It's a fantastic chance for students to show their house pride, cheer on their friends, and have a great time.



### **Additional Reminders**

**\*TISSUES\*** It would be greatly appreciated if all families could please bring along a box of tissues at the beginning of the year. This allows us to have enough tissues to last all the students throughout the year and assists us with our school budget. A huge thank you to everyone that has already done this!

**\*SUNSCREEN & HAND SANITISER\*** All classrooms have sunscreen and hand sanitiser in them. Students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen when going outside. Students are required to wear their school hat during Term 1 and Term 4. If students do not have their hat at school, they are required to play in an undercover area for the whole of recess and lunch. Please note, teachers will not be rubbing sunscreen on children.

## Uniform

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

A friendly reminder to please stick to the uniform choices listed above and please do not mix clothing together (ie. pants under a dress).

## Dates to Remember for Term 2

150th Celebration- May 3rd

CyberKindness Incursion- May 6th

Walk Safely 2 School Day- May 16th

Mr James at Berry Street Training PD- May 29th/30th

Reconciliation Week- 27th May-3rd June

Big Freeze- June 6th (TBC)

King's Birthday Public Holiday- June 9th

End of Term 2- July 4th

Please keep your eyes peeled on Compass for all school related activities and events. You can also access the parent calendar via the school newsletter.



## Timetables

2/3 W

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45-9:45 1	Values	English	PE	Maths	English (Spelling test)
9:45-10:45 2	Maths	English	Performing Arts	Resilience Project MARC (10:05-10:45)	English
10:45 -11:10	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
11:10-12:10 3	English	Maths	English	English	Maths
12:10-1:10 4	English	STEM	Art	English	Maths
1:10-2:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2:00-3:00 5	Spelling	Inquiry	English	Inquiry	Class Meeting/Values Assembly (Fortnight)

3/4 J

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45-9:45 1	Values	English	Performing Arts	English	English
9:45-10:45 2	Maths	English	PE	English	English
10:45 -11:10	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
11:10-12:10 3	English	STEM	Art	Resilience Project MARC (11:10-11:50)	Maths
12:10-1:10 4	English	Maths	English	Maths	Maths
1:10-2:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2:00-3:00 5	Spelling	Inquiry	English	Inquiry	Class Meeting/Values Assembly (Fortnight)

## Meeting times

We are in meetings and unavailable at the following times:

Tuesday 3.15pm- 4:35pm Professional Learning Community Meeting  
 Wednesday 3:15pm- 4:35pm Staff Briefing/Curriculum-Wellbeing Meeting

## Organisation Reminders

- We ask that students all students arrive at school by 8.40am so that they have time to set up their desk, put their diary in the tub, and be ready for independent reading at 8:45.
- A reminder that supervision time starts at 8.35am so students can enter the classroom then.
- Students are expected to bring their iPads to school every day, charged for the day's learning. We do use iPads on most days to complete assessments, research and post on Seesaw.
- 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 they are on even weeks). We will contact you if your child is receiving an award.



**CPS Values for the Whole Child: Respect | Resilience | Responsibility**

Ceres Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and has zero tolerance for child abuse (Child Safe Standards).

*Disclaimer: Staff at Ceres Primary School access their work emails between 8:35am - 4:35pm (Monday to Wednesday) 8:35am - 3:35pm (Thursday and Friday) and will endeavour to respond within 48 hours. Staff are not expected to respond in this timeframe during weekends, public holidays and term breaks.*