Teacher: Mr Harry James

Education Support: Bridie Collins

Ed Connect Volunteers: Peter Hughes

Welcome back everyone to our final term of 2024! We've got an action-packed term ahead, filled with exciting events, excursions, incursions, and of course, some fantastic end-of-year celebrations! Please find the dates listed below and stay tuned to Compass for any updates or changes.

I also want to take a moment to express my gratitude to all the students, parents, and families for the support, kindness and transparency this year. I feel so fortunate to be part of such an amazing class and community here at Ceres.



As always, if you have any questions regarding your child's learning or any concerns throughout the term, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can send a message through Compass or write a note in the student diary to arrange a time to chat.







Literacy

This term in Literacy, we're diving into an Author Study, exploring the works of renowned British author David Walliams! Through this unit, students will develop their skills in reading fluently, comprehending, analysing, and critiquing the works of our focus author.



Students are encouraged to continue selecting good fit books that suit the purpose of their reading, with the students particularly enjoying the opportunity to read with Peter, our Ed Connect volunteer, as well as listen to him read our class novel: *The Midnight Gang by David Walliams*.

Later in the term, we'll transition into "Reading and Writing across Genres," where students will enhance their abilities to read and write across various text types based on a topic of their choice.

The reading strategies we will focus on this term include:

- Within: Decoding, Fluency, Summarising
- Beyond: Questioning, Inferring, Determining Importance, Synthesising
- About: Analysing the author's craft and critiquing their work with evidence-based opinions.

In writing, we will align our studies with these topics, focusing on "Authors as Mentors" and a "Multi-Genre Unit" where students will learn to analyse an author's craft and apply it to their own writing across different genres (e.g., information reports, poetry, persuasive pieces).

Students will continue setting personal reading and writing goals, tracking their progress using learning goal templates and class goal boards. They will present evidence of their progress during individual reading conferences with me. Seesaw will remain a key tool for sharing this progress.

Our Word Work sessions, held everyday, will focus on academic vocabulary related to current topics of Inquiry, Maths, and other learning areas. We'll also incorporate the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) and etymology to assist with articulation and spelling.



Numeracy

This term, we'll emphasise Financial Maths while revisiting all areas of Mathematics to solidify what we've learned throughout the year.

Students will continue to access Mathletics for tasks, Mathletics Live, and goal work, while Essential Assessment will support number fluency (through Sunset Maths) and individual goal achievement (via My Numeracy).

Our Maths Work sessions will concentrate on problem-solving strategies such as drawing diagrams, working backwards, and creating tables. These sessions aim to help students apply mathematical concepts and skills to real-life situations, enhancing their numeracy skills.

It is important that students are practising their multiplication facts up to 10×10 , to help them with fluency in their fact recalls. There are some great songs that can help with this, particularly Taylor Swift and other well-known artists, which have proved hugely popular in our class when consolidating our times tables. In addition to these, there is always Mathletics Live, 20-Card Dash and many other fun, online resources.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry topic for the term is "Exciting Experiments" as part of the Chemical Science area of the Victorian Curriculum. We'll explore:

- What's the Matter? All about solids, liquids and gases
- Inquiry-based experiments and research using chemistry and chemical reactions

Inquiry will take place during Monday and Thursday afternoons in conjunction with 2/3W and 2/3BR, where students will complete a number of engaging rotations that focus on the many different areas of science.

Later in the term, we will also begin to explore the 'Gold Rush' era of Australian history. As part of this, students will learn about and investigate the historical, geographical and political impacts of these events on the Nation.

Values

We'll continue following the Resilience, Rights, and Respectful Relationships Curriculum, alongside the Resilience Project. Each student will use their Resilience Project journal to reflect on 'Gratitude, Empathy, and Mindfulness' (GEM), building their resilience.

R U OK? Day

A huge thank you to everyone who supported R U OK? Day 2024! Whether you donated, volunteered, or helped spread the word, your contributions made a difference. Our 3/4 students embraced their roles as Ambassadors with enthusiasm and dedication. Remember, a simple conversation ANY day and EVERY day can change a life:

- 1. Ask R U OK?
- 2. Listen
- 3. Encourage action
- 4. Check in





Let's make the most of this final term!

Dates to Remember

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

Oct 21st- Mr James out for ICT PD

Oct 23rd- Geelong Cup Public Holiday

Nov 4th & 5th- Pupil Free Days

Nov 12th- Wellbeing Day

Nov 14th- RACV Safety Squad Incursion

Dec 9th- Grandparents & Special People Morning

Dec 10th- Whole School Transition

Dec 12th- Christmas Carols Night

Dec 13th- Last Assembly (2025 Leaders Announced)

Dec 16th- 2/3/4 End of Year Excursion

Dec 20th- End of Term, 1:30pm finish

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.

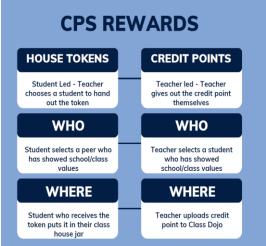
Uniform

TOP CHOICES	BOTTOM CHOICES	ADDITIONAL
 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 	 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

Our Houses







Mr James Meeting times

I am in meetings and unavailable at the following times:

Monday 3.05pm- 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

- After school care program held at Ceres Primary School.
- Not currently running a before-school program.





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.