

Grade 2/3 Newsletter – Term 3, 2025

Teachers: Mr James, Miss Hamilton & Miss Willis

Education Support: Chelsea (2/3J) & Bridie (2/3W)



Welcome to Term 3!

We hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable break and are ready for another fantastic term of learning. It has been wonderful to see students returning refreshed, confident, and excited to continue building on their growth so far this year. Term 3 is shaping up to be another engaging and productive term full of rich learning, collaboration, and discovery.

This term, we're excited to welcome Miss Taylah Hamilton to our 2/3 team as she steps in for Miss Willis, who is enjoying a well-earned break on long service leave. We wish Miss Willis all the very best for a relaxing and enriching time away—you will be missed by both students and staff! Miss Hamilton brings great energy, warmth and creativity to the classroom, and she's already made a fantastic impression. We're so lucky to have her on board for Term 3 and know the students will continue to thrive under her guidance. Welcome, Miss Hamilton!

Thank you once again for your ongoing support—it truly makes a difference in helping our students thrive both academically and socially. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to connect, feel free to speak with us at the gate or message us via Compass.

Warm regards,

Mr James, Miss Hamilton, Miss Willis, Chelsea, and Bridie

Celebrating 150 Years of Ceres Primary School

Our celebrations of Ceres Primary School's 150th year continue into Term 3. This has been a special opportunity for students to explore the school's history and deepen their understanding of our community's past. If you or someone you know has any historical stories, artefacts or photographs from our school's past, we would love to hear from you.

Morning Routine & Independence

Developing strong routines continues to be a focus this term. Students may enter the school from 8:35am to begin setting up for the day, with classroom doors open from 8:35–8:45am. This is a great opportunity for students to build independence by unpacking their bags, completing morning jobs, and preparing for the day ahead. We kindly encourage parents to support this by saying goodbye at the door or bus shelter, unless other arrangements have been discussed with your child's teacher.

Assembly – Come Along!

Our school assemblies take place every second Friday at 2:30pm. Families are always welcome to attend. These are wonderful moments to see what our students have been learning and celebrate their achievements. In addition to student shares and updates from our classes, awards like the Principal's Award, GEM Award (Resilience Project), Stretch the Brain, and Aussie of the Month are presented. You'll be notified if your child is receiving an award—we'd love to see you there!

English – Building Strong Foundations in Literacy

This term, our 2-hour English blocks continue to provide students with a rich and comprehensive literacy experience. Students participate in a structured routine that includes:

- Daily Reviews
- Phonics and Spelling
- Fluency and Handwriting
- Vocabulary and Comprehension Strategies
- Purposeful and structured Writing tasks

In Term 3, we will focus heavily on **narrative and informative writing**, learning how to organise ideas, use descriptive language, and engage the reader with interesting vocabulary and structure. We are reading the text *Matilda* by Roald Dahl, as well as studying 'Off We Go Around Australia' and 'The Iron Giant'. Students will also work on **reading comprehension**, exploring texts to infer, make connections, and understand author intent.

Home reading continues to be a key part of supporting your child's growth. Please encourage daily reading and the use of their **Resilience Project reading logs**, which also provide a space for reflecting on Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM). Certificates are awarded as students reach milestones—keep up the amazing reading at home!

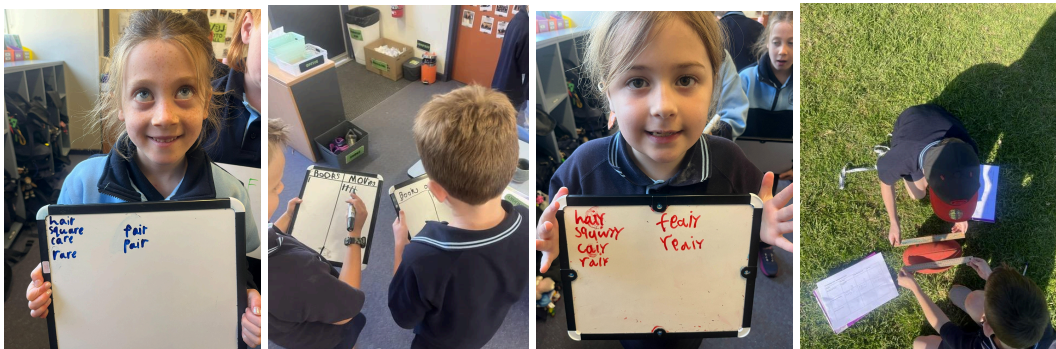
Mathematics – Exploring Concepts and Building Confidence

Our Term 3 Maths focus will include:

- **Patterns, Algebra and Operations**
- **Fractions**
- **Measurement & Shape**
- **Space**
- **Position and Direction**

Students will engage with hands-on learning experiences and real-life applications, such as measuring objects in the classroom and comparing masses of everyday items. We'll also continue to develop mental strategies and problem-solving confidence through our **Launch–Explore–Discuss** model, and challenge students with open-ended and creative tasks.

Students are encouraged to practise recall of number facts and use online tools like **Mathletics Live** and **MyNumeracy**, especially tasks aligned to their individual goals (shared on Seesaw). These reinforce class learning and build confidence with core skills.



Inquiry – Biological Science and Living Things

This term, our Inquiry unit shifts to **Biological Science**, where we explore the fascinating world of living things. Students will investigate:

- The **life cycles** of plants and animals
- How living things grow, change, and adapt
- The **interconnections** between living things and their environment
- What it means to care for and protect native species

As part of our exciting Biological Science unit this term, we're diving into the fascinating world of living things—their life cycles, habitats, and how they interact with their environment. To wrap up our learning, we're currently planning a **special excursion** for the end of Term 3 that will bring this unit to life in a fun, hands-on way. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks, and in the meantime, get those thinking caps on—we've got plenty of curious creatures and wild facts to explore!

Our school's **sustainability goals** will link into this unit, including opportunities for students to engage in outdoor learning, plant observations, and nature walks. If families have expertise or interest in native plants, wildlife, or gardening, we'd love to involve you!

Looking Ahead to Term 4

To finish the year, our Inquiry focus will shift to **Health, Wellbeing and Personal Development**, where students will explore:

- Healthy choices and nutrition
- Physical activity and positive relationships
- Managing emotions and mental wellbeing

This unit will encourage students to reflect on themselves, their habits, and how they can grow as individuals and as a community member.

We're looking forward to an exciting and purposeful Term 3, full of rich learning and growth. Thank you for continuing to support your child's journey—together, we're building strong learners, friends, and thinkers.

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!

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"> • Checked dress with navy necktie, white Peter Pan collar and cuffs • 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 	<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

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 – Term 3

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.

- **Friday, July 25th** – *Schools Tree Day*
- **Friday, August 1st** – *Grade 2 Kids Helpline Incursion*
- **Friday, August 1st** – *Principal's Day*
- **August 4th–6th** – *Parent Teacher Interviews*
- **Wednesday, August 7th** – *Pupil Free Day* (No school for students)
- **August 16th–23rd** – *Book Week*
- **Thursday, September 11th** – *R U OK? Day*

- **Friday, September 19th – Last Day of Term 3 & Footy Colours Day**

Please keep an eye on **Compass** for updates and event details throughout the term. You can also check the **parent calendar** in the school newsletter for more information.



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

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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 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.