

Grade 3/4 Newsletter

Term 2, 2024

Teacher: Mr James

Education Support: Bridie Collins

Ed Connect Volunteers: Peter & Sue

Welcome back, Grade 3/4 families! There's plenty on the horizon for our Grade 3/4 students this term, including exciting events like SSA 3-6 Athletics, the Colour Run, our brand new whole-school Ceres Aths Day and most importantly- 3/4 Camp! We have been very busy getting organised and excited for our three day/two night trip to the YMCA Lady Northcote which is coming around very quickly! Needless to say we are going to have a super time.

Additionally, the 3/4J team have been bubbling with ideas for the term ahead, we can't wait to see their passion and unique voices continue to unfold throughout the term.

Should you have any inquiries regarding your child's academic journey or any concerns throughout the year, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can schedule a discussion via Compass email or by leaving a note in the student diary.



Literacy

In Literacy this term, our focus is on honing the skills, knowledge, and understanding necessary to read, comprehend, research, analyse, and critique informative and procedural texts with fluency. We're deepening our practice of substantive talk, utilising 'turn and talk buddies,' engaging in small group and whole class discussions to reinforce skills and foster rich substantive conversations. Our emphasis is on paraphrasing and synthesising conversation points to enhance comprehension and critical thinking.

In Reading, students will continue to enhance their comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and vocabulary skills through explicit teaching focus lessons, independent reading opportunities, and personalised clinics. They'll select books that align with their reading purpose, ensuring a good fit for their individual preferences and learning needs. This term, our focus in Reading remains on developing the skills and understanding required to fluently engage with informative and procedural texts.

Moving to Writing, we're aligning our focus genre with our Reading curriculum, delving into informative and procedural texts. Students will explore various examples of these text types, following the writing process to craft their own pieces in these genres. After completing a writing sample for informative texts, students will set their goals for the term, initiating planning and research phases centred around a country of their choosing.

Building on established practices of goal setting, students will monitor their reading and writing progress through learning goal templates and our class goal board. They'll present evidence of their progress during individual reading conferences, utilising the Seesaw app to share updates on their goals.

Our daily Word Work sessions will target vocabulary relevant to our current areas of inquiry, mathematics, and other learning domains. Academic vocabulary receives special attention, with students self-assessing their understanding, delving into word meanings, analysing word structures, and synthesising their understanding over each fortnight. Additionally, we're integrating the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and etymology to enhance pronunciation and spelling skills.



Maths

In Numeracy, Grade 3/4 students are reinforcing and expanding their skills in the four operations, encompassing whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and monetary concepts. Building student confidence with multiplication facts up to 10×10 is crucial for their fluency, which can be supported at school and home through engaging resources such as songs, Mathletics Live, Toy Theatre and other online tools. Our lessons maintain a structured format, including Warm-up, Explicit Teaching, Independent Work/Clinic, and Reflection, with a challenging maths task integrated weekly. Students can access their maths learning goals via Seesaw, aligning with activities they can pursue at home through MyNumeracy.



Inquiry

In Inquiry, our focus shifts to the realm of Geography with the unit 'Australia's Neighbours.' Students will explore the location of Australia's neighbouring countries and the diverse characteristics of these places, before each student will select a specific country of focus. Some examples of our learning, tied nicely into our literacy information texts and real-world maths, will be using a globe to locate New Zealand, the Pacific Island nations, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Indonesia, identifying the direction of each country from Australia and describing their similarities and differences.

Values

Regarding Values, we continue to embrace the Resilience, Rights, and Respectful Relationships Curriculum, delving into the theme of 'Positive Coping and Problem Solving.' Additionally, we'll integrate the 'Resilience Project' into our Wellbeing curriculum, equipping each student with their own journal to practice and promote positive mental health strategies, fostering 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

April 29th- Pupil Free Day

May 1st- SSA Athletics

May 3rd- Colour Run (2pm)

May 7th- School Photos (Class Photos)

May 8th-10th- 3/4 Camp, YMCA Lady Northcote

May 10th- Mother's Day Fundraiser

May 13th- 17th- Education Week (Incursion timetable sent out through Compass)

May 17th- Walk Safely to School Day

May 27th- Bully Zero Incursion

May 31st- SSA Football/ Netball (potentially some 3/4 students required)

Jun 10th- King's Birthday Public Holiday

Jun 14th- Whole School Aths Day

Jun 27th- Reports Available

Jun 28th- End of Term (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



CPS REWARDS	
HOUSE TOKENS	CREDIT POINTS
Student Led - Teacher chooses a student to hand out the token	Teacher led - Teacher gives out the credit point themselves
WHO	WHO
Student selects a peer who has showed school/class values	Teacher selects a student who has showed school/class values
WHERE	WHERE
Student who receives the token puts it in their class house jar	Teacher uploads credit point to Class Dojo

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.