

LEVEL 3/4 NEWS

Seed Books

Part of our whole school writing program is the use of a writing seed book. This book is designed to provide students with inspiration for writing. It is expected that all students provide their own seeds. These can be photos, brochures, pictures, ticket stubs and other objects that interest your child.

'Getting to Know You Interviews'

Getting to Know You Interviews will be held from February 15th-19th. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to share any pertinent information about your child. Please make an appointment at: www.schoolinterviews.com.au
School Event Code: FO3DM

Welcome to an exciting year! After a great break enjoyed by all we are back into the swing of school. The children have settled in well and have quickly picked up where we left off last year. The teachers in Level 3 this year are Amanda Dunn, Sarah Polmear and David McManamon. A big welcome to Ms Polmear who impressed us so much during her teaching rounds that we gave her a job!

Curriculum Focus:

Maths: This term we will be focusing on place value, addition, subtraction, time, measurement, mapping, surveys and graphing.

Literacy: Throughout Term 1 we will revisit our reading strategies. These strategies make up a major component of our program. Some of these include predicting, visualizing, inferring and making connections. This term we will be reading 'The Burnt Stick' by Anthony Hill. Don't forget the Premier's Reading Challenge will be opening soon. Please start taking note of the books you have read. A great place to keep a list is in your school diary!

Inquiry: For the first few weeks of Term 1 we will be focussing on Learning for Life. This unit establishes routines and the expectations, as well as building relationships between students and teachers. After Learning for Life, our Inquiry Unit 'Identity' will begin. The students will discover that their identity is constantly changing due to many different factors such as culture, gender, religion and experiences. We will have a particular focus on the links between Australian culture and how it has been shaped by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



Calendar

- February 15th-19th: 'Getting to Know You Interviews'
- March 14th: Labor Day
- March 24th: Last day of Term 1

Parent Helpers:

We are always on the look out for parent helpers in the classroom. If you can spare some time to help out please contact your child's teacher.

Contact Information:

Please ensure your contact information is up to date. If you have changed your number or address please let the office know.

Friendly Reminder:

Please ensure your child's personal items are clearly labelled. If your child's art smock or Wow Book are still at home, please return them to school as soon as possible.

Homework

This year homework centres around the school diary. As well as being a great way to get to know dates and diaries, it also allows students to take charge of their learning and record their own work. Homework requires students to read on a regular basis and record their reading habits in their diary. This could be books read to them, by them or with them. This will also help students keep a record of books for the Premier's Reading Challenge. The expectation for reading at home is 15 minutes per day.

Students will also record their spelling words in their diary and choose tasks to complete.

Students will also be given homework relevant to the teaching happening in the class. This may involve them learning the states of Australia or practising their times tables. These tasks have resources located within the diary.

We ask parents to initial entries on a nightly bases. It is an expectation that there is a minimum of 5 entries per week.

Please bring any questions about homework (or anything else) to our 'Getting to Know You' interviews.

The most useful homework of all has little to do with text books and exercises but it guarantees to help children become better learners and happier human beings. Here is some of the homework that really makes a difference:

- Lots and lots of family conversations- story telling, jokes, discussions about everything under the sun
- Shared bedtime stories with Mum or Dad
- Personal reading in bed before lights out
- Family games, activities and hobbies
- Regular visits to the local library

COMMUNICATION

Below you will find a list of email address contacts for the Level 3/4 teachers. We are happy for you to contact us by email if there is a small issue that you would like to alert us to or a quick question you would like us to answer. For example this might relate to: sending in food for a birthday, student absences, questions about incursions or excursions or to arrange a time for an interview.

For any larger issues eg. student friendships, student learning or student wellbeing, we would prefer that you contact us by telephone or arrange a time for an interview. Email is not an effective or appropriate form of communication in these cases. If you email us regarding an issue that we believe needs to be discussed in person we will advise you to arrange an interview time with us.

3/4A Amanda Dunn dunn.amanda.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

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3/4C David McManamon

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