



Pascoe Vale North Primary School

## Grade 3/4 Term 1 2023

### Newsletter and Curriculum News

Welcome back to school for 2023! We are very much looking forward to working with you this year to support your child through their 2023 learning journey. It has been a busy start to the year with our Ready to Learn program that ensures all students transition into the year in a smooth and settled way. We have lots of exciting events and learning experiences to look forward to this year, in particular our camp in Term 3 (which information will be provided for later in the year).

As it is the beginning of a new school year, we would like to kindly remind all families to please make sure your student's belongings are clearly labeled to help keep track of them.

The Grade 3/4s are continuing to run our Nude Food program which encourages all students in the school to have a wrapper free lunch box every Tuesday and Thursday, and to only have reusable containers.

We thank you for your ongoing support,

From the Grade 3/4 team:

Emily Giliam - 34A

Elizabeth Higham and Josie Carmichael - 34B

Denise Diamantopolous - 34C (Team Leader)

Rachel Foy - 34D

Monique Herbert - 34E

### Important Dates for Term 1

Dates	What's on?
Feb 15 & 16	Meet the Teacher evenings (3:30-7:15pm)
March 5, 9, 16, 23	SEDA Sports clinic visits
March 13	Labour Day - Pupil Free Day
March 15, 16, 17	NAPLAN Testing
March 22	School Photos
April 6	Last day of Term 1 - Students dismissed at 2:30pm



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**Missing school 1 day  
per fortnight equates  
to 20 days of absence  
per year.**

In Term 1, the students will explore Civics and Citizenship through inquiring into why people make rules and laws. They will consider the purpose of rules within a local context and compare this to other areas in Australia and then further abroad to other countries. Students will be prompted by questions such as:

- Why do people make rules and laws?
- Who benefits from the rules that are created?
- How can you make a positive difference in the creation of new rules?

Students will create a discovery question around mid-term. Teachers will encourage and scaffold students' abilities in researching and answering their questions in detail. Students will take part in flexible, creative and critical thinking to answer their question in a way that represents their interests, capabilities and strengths.

## Reading

### OVERVIEW

In 3/4 Area, students are expected to spend at least 30 minutes reading their Home Reader or novel of their choice at home each night. The novel of their choice could be a library book or their own novel from home. Students are expected to record the books/novels they have read and completed in their Home Reading Log. Students visit the library every fortnight where they are allowed to borrow 4 library books, their loans last 2 weeks. Students will also be given the digital resource 'Wushka' where they can read books at home on a chosen device.

### Reading strategies that we will focus on on this term:

- Making connections
- Making predictions
- Identifying themes in texts
- Analysing settings and characters
- Comparing and contrasting texts
- Determining importance
- Asking and answering questions
- Identifying the message of the story
- Identifying the author's purpose

# Writing

## OVERVIEW

In Grade 3/4, students will be consolidating their knowledge of how to use paragraphs and consistently using punctuation correctly such as full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, speech marks and commas. Students will focus on deepening their understanding of different text types, their structures and features such as imaginative, persuasive and informative. Students will become familiar with most high-frequency sight words and be able to use them correctly in their writing.

## **TOPICS COVERED THIS TERM:**

### **Persuasive**

Persuasive texts are used to persuade others to accept a particular point of view. Students will be practising using language features of a persuasive text such as emotive language and modal verbs. They will be consolidating their understanding of the structure of a persuasive text and write persuasive texts to convince their classmates to agree with their point of view.

### **Narrative**

The purpose of narratives is to tell or narrate a sequence of events involving characters who face a problem. Narratives can be presented in picture story books, comic or cartoon format, simple short stories or longer stories with complicated plots.

Students will be working towards writing their own Narrative story and work towards publishing it in their chosen format.

# Mathematics

## OVERVIEW

In Grade 3/4, students will expand their knowledge of the three strands of Mathematics (Number & Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability) through exploring a range of concepts through hands-on experiences. Teachers aim to engage students in real-world, relatable maths problems so that students understand the purpose for maths learning in their own lives.

Teachers will encourage students to use the 4 Proficiencies (Fluency, Understanding, Reasoning and Problem Solving) so that they are using deep thinking strategies when solving a range of problems.

Students will spend time working both in groups and independently to foster their understanding of mathematical concepts. Term 1 topics include:

- Exploring Place Value (understanding whole numbers, ordering, creating and re-naming numbers)
- Multiplication
- Fractions
- Measurement - Length

# Homework

**OVERVIEW:** Students will receive their homework books (expectations will be glued inside) early in Week 3 of Term 1. Students are not expected to bring their homework books in every Friday to be checked, rather, they will bring their books in on Monday during the last week of Term 1 (Monday the 3rd of April) for their teacher to check their learning. We encourage students to take responsibility for keeping on track with their homework, as this builds independence and organisational skills.

## READING

- Please encourage your child to read for a minimum of 30 minutes every night by the end of the year
- Students may choose to read a novel of their choice or text which they are able to read independently (either with real books or accessing Wushka). Wushka logins will be sent home with the homework early Week 3
- We encourage students to record this in their Home Reading Log (which is stuck in their homework book)

## SPELLING:

- Students will learn words from their individual spelling list. This will be followed by a test in class on Friday

## **NUMERACY**

- We highly encourage students to learn their times tables, these should be able to be recalled as quickly as possible! Students also have a maths grid, pasted into their homework book that they can work through.