

Stage 3 Class Information
5/6M - Term 1 2020

Welcome to another exciting year of learning at Hamilton Public School. Holly, Zane and I are thrilled to be working together for our third consecutive year on Stage 3. This year we will be refining and consolidating the learning programs we have introduced in the past 2 years, with a renewed focus on further increasing student engagement and achievement in learning tasks. The following information is a brief outline of learning and routines in 5/6M. More in depth information will be discussed at the Parent Information Night which is scheduled for Tuesday 13 February at 5.30pm.

Important Days

Monday – Library and Science- Alternate weeks **Whole school assembly (2-3pm – all welcome!)**

Tuesday – Scripture and Ethics

Thursday – Physical Education – please wear appropriate shoes and uniform

Friday – Sport

Teaching and Learning

Students will be involved in a large range of learning activities. They will have times when they are working individually, in small groups and as a whole class.

Our school has developed a thematic scope and sequence to enhance student learning. The theme for Term One is **Social Justice**. Within this theme we will focus on United Nations (UN) Sustainability Goal 8: *Decent Work and Economic Growth* and UN Sustainability Goal 16 *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions*. All teachers will be teaching integrated units around this theme covering stage content from English, PDHPE, Science & Technology, History and Geography. A short outline of this term's unit has been attached to this letter. Our class novel, *Boy Overboard* by Morris Gleitzman, will also assist students in grasping our theme from different perspectives. In addition to our thematic units, students will be following the school scope and sequence in mathematics and English.

Technology

Students will be using a variety of online learning programs at school. Programs such as *Google classroom*, *Matific* and *NewsAdemic* (a newly introduced program to enhance comprehension of factual, current affairs based texts). Programs can also be accessed at home once the children receive their logins. I enjoy using *SeeSaw* as a communication tool. I will post news, updates and announcements weekly. Many of you will be familiar with this technology, however, for those who aren't, I will explain this further at the information night.

Equipment

The following items will be required:

1 x Small Pencil Case: this should contain items for work presentation (e.g. blue pens, red pens, a ruler, lead pencils and an eraser). For an injection of colour, good quality wind up crayons are the best as they make colouring quick and the colours are vibrant. They also don't need sharpening which saves lots of time. This pencil case will be kept under student desks so their work space is not cluttered.

Textas are also a useful in the classroom. Students can bring these in a clearly labelled packet with their name on it and they will be stored ready for use when projects and group work is being completed. **No gel pens are permitted at any time.**

Books: An **A4 sized homework book** covered in contact and a **student diary** will be required so that student can get used to recording organisational notes including homework tasks, upcoming events, due dates etc.

1 x Small Earphones/Earbuds: that can be plugged into the computer for independent work. These are best stored in a small plastic container with a lid.

A4 Cardboard Envelopes: students will need a couple of things that fit under their desks to store loose stencils etc in. 2 x A4 cardboard envelopes should be sufficient.

Students also please bring a box of tissues and a roll of paper towel at the start of the year for the classroom. You would be surprised how many tissues we go through in a year!

Please note that liquid paper, white out, white out tape and all similar items are banned at school.

Please ensure that all items have your child's name clearly marked on them.

Homework

Homework will begin in Week 4 of Term 1 (21 February 2018). This is so expectations can be clearly explained to parents at the Parent Information Night. Home work in Stage 3 will consist of fortnightly tasks accessed through Google Classroom. Other arrangements can be made if your child is unable to access a computer at home. A project will also be set each semester. It is an important aspect of Stage 3 learning as regular homework routines are vital for high school.

Class Management Plan

A strong emphasis is placed on the fact that we are at school to learn. Students are recognised for the positive contributions they make to our class learning environment. Students understand that class rules and expectations help us feel safe, happy and ready for learning. The school already has very clear guidelines and the students of 5/6M have collaboratively written a consistent set of classroom guidelines this week.

Students are encouraged and recognised through our school wide PBL program which promotes *Respect, Responsibility* and *Personal Best*.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or queries, and I look forward to elaborating at our Parent Information session on Tuesday 13 February. Contact me via the school email (hamilton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) at any time, or give the school a call to arrange a time for an appointment if you need to see me before this date.

Jade Marr
Classroom Teacher, Stage 3

Meredith Lindsay
Principal

Wednesday 5 February 2020.