

3G Term 4 Newsletter

Welcome back!

This year has certainly been an unconventional one, but we have made it to Term 4!

We have a very busy and exciting time ahead. Many of our extra-curricular activities return this term, including drama, tap, STEM, Green Team, art class and coding, to name a few.

From Weeks 2 to 7, all students will participate in a transition program in anticipation for next year's classes. 3G will work with Year 4 teachers Wednesday mornings. This allows children to become familiar with different teachers and assists with expectations for next year. Students will be engaged in CAPA lessons during this time.

We also have a Year 3 planned excursion to the Awabakal Education Centre at Redhead in Week 7, the mini fete and a Water Safety Day to look forward to (all details to follow).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both students and parents for their support and resolve throughout this (often challenging) year and look forward to teaching and guiding such a delightful class in the final term of 2020. 3G will continue with the Grow Your Mind wellbeing program that has been an effective tool when teaching students to develop a growth mindset and resilience. It has been successful in supporting students care for their mental health and wellbeing, and I am confident this will help prepare them for their exciting journey into Year 4.

Warm regards,

Mrs Karen Grant
3G Classroom Teacher

Classroom Supplies

If you are able to help our classroom by providing any of the items below to be shared in the class, we would really appreciate it:

- ~ Whiteboard markers
- ~ Soap/Hand sanitiser
- ~ Tissue box

Important Dates

- 23rd October: Book Week Activities
 - 29th October: Stage 2 Parent Phone Interviews
 - 20th November: Mini Fete
 - 23rd November: Years 3-6 Water Safety Day
 - 27th November: Year 3 Awabakal Excursion
 - 8th December: Reports home
 - 10th December: Presentation Day
 - 16th December: Last Day of school for 2020
- Year 4 Excursion TBA

Weekly Timetable

- Monday** – Library with Mrs Nelmes (even weeks)
– Science with Mr Handley (odd weeks)
- Monday** – Stage 2 and 3 Assembly
(2:30pm, students only)
- Tuesday** – Scripture, Ethics and Mindfulness
- Thursday** – Sports in Schools (odd weeks)
- Friday** – Primary sport

Absences

The NSW DoE requires all absences to be justified. If your child is away, please explain your child's absence.

You can phone or email the school, send an absence notification via the Parent Portal or reply to the SMS notification that is sent out at 9:30am on the day of your child's absence.

If you have not explained your child's absence via any of the methods above, your child will bring home a white absent note to explain their absence. Please fill this out and return to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Also, being at school on time is important, so that your child does not miss the class procedures and explicit teaching part of the day.

Literacy

Informative writing remains the primary focus in Term 4, with paragraph structure at the core of teaching and learning experiences. Students will be provided with opportunities to research neighbouring countries to Australia in preparation for producing informative texts about these places.

Later in the term, skills in writing poetry and persuasive writing will be drawn into focus and be explicitly taught.

During our daily writing warm-ups students will continue to refine their skills in creating a variety of complex sentence structures.

This term, we will resume work with our SMART Spelling program and incorporated aspects of the SSP (Speech-Sound-Pics) program as well.

Reading comprehension strategies will continue to be taught during weekly lessons, with 'comparing and contrasting' the initial focus.

SCIENCE

In Term 4, Mr Handley will deliver the science topic, 'Day and Night'. This unit will see students explore how the Earth's rotation on its axis causes regular changes, including night and day, in the context of observing and modelling the movement of the sun, Earth and moon.

Contact

If you have any questions, concerns or wish to make an appointment, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school phone (49693577), Sentral Parent Portal, or school email (Hamilton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au). If you choose to email, please put my name in the SUBJECT line so the office staff know who to forward the email to. I will either contact you by phone or reply via the school email. However, if you have an urgent matter please ring the office immediately.

Maths

Students will continue to focus on whole number, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be working with mass and volume over the upcoming weeks before revisiting concepts previously taught throughout the year. Our maths warm-ups remain an integral part of all maths lessons and there will be concerted effort to improve recall of times tables facts across Stage 2.

Library

Students will learn visual programming skills in the library this term with the unit 'We Are Pollinators'. Students will utilise Lego WeDo and Dash technology to engage with the topic of pollination in deep and meaningful ways.

STEM

Students in Stage 2 are now beginning to engage with a Level Two STEM project examining renewable energy. They will build on the many skills in collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking that have been fostered throughout the year during the initial Level One phase. Our 'design-thinking space' has proven to be an awesome environment to engage students in such activities and they are thriving in the new learning space.

Homework

Homework is optional, apart from home reading which is essential. It is very important to spend 10-15 minutes reading with your child and listening to them read aloud every day.