

# 4F Term 4 Newsletter

## Welcome

Welcome back to Term 4! It was lovely to see so many beaming faces return to school after what was clearly a fun-filled and recharging holiday for the students. It hasn't taken long for the class to switch back into gear and continue to strive for excellence in and out of the classroom.

Year 4 are excited to begin the buddy program with kindergarten this week! The students are sure to be wonderful role models for our new students. The program will run for a duration of six weeks, with students re-uniting with their buddies on the first day of school in 2021.

Information regarding out Year 4 overnight excursion will be sent home ASAP. We are currently just waiting on confirmation from an external company before we can lock everything in. I do know students have been very patient in regards to this, and we thank both them, and you, for the understanding shown in relation to the challenges 2020 has posed in planning things too far in advance.

With the end of the school year on the horizon, each and every day is one to cherish with these fantastic students. We'll be working diligently to continue the academic and personal progress seen over the last few terms so as to be as prepared as possible for entering Stage 3.

If you have any questions about the upcoming term or events, please contact me.

Warm regards,

Clay Farrar  
Teacher

## Weekly Timetable

### Monday

Stage 2-3 assembly at 2:30pm (students only)

### Tuesday

Library with Mrs Nelmes (odd weeks)  
Science with Mr Handley (even weeks)  
Scripture, Ethics and Mindfulness

**Thursday** – Sports in Schools (odd weeks)

**Friday** – Primary sport

## Important Dates

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

## 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](mailto: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.

## 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.



### Maths

Students will continue to focus on whole number, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. In addition to this, we will be working with mass and volume over the next few 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 the times tables facts across Stage 2.

### Science

This term, 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.

### STEM

Students in Stage 2 are now beginning to engage with a Level Two STEM project examining renewable energy, building on the many skills in collaborating, communicating, creativity and critical thinking that have been fostered throughout the year during the initial Level One phase. Our design-thinking space in the Stage 2 hallway has proven to be an awesome environment to engage students in such activities and they are very much enjoying the new learning space.

### 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
- ~ Paper towel

### 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 draw into focus and be explicitly taught.

During our daily writing warm-ups students will be further refining their skills in creating a variety of complex sentence structures.

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

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

### 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.

### Scripture, Ethics and Mindfulness

Lessons will re-commence from Tuesday, Week 2. These lessons will take place every Tuesday afternoon from 2:30pm.

### Grow Your Mind

The Grow Your Mind program is now in full swing. The wellbeing initiative provides engaging, evidence-based, curriculum aligned positive mental health education for students. Ask your child about the different 'animals in our brain' and start the conversation!

