

Year 4 Class Newsletter

Term 3, 2016

Welcome to Term 3! I hope you all enjoyed the school break. This term we welcome Joe Kinder to our class, Joe is completing his third year teaching practicum. The children have settled into school exceptionally well and have been busy working in the following areas:

Religious Education

Our next topics will be "God Knows Everything" and "The Creator of Human Life".

Literacy

We will continue to use the "*Springboard into Comprehension*" resource. This semester we will revise the six key comprehension skills which are finding the main idea, sequencing information, compare and contrasting information, finding facts and opinions, understanding cause and effect and lastly, understanding bias and prejudice.

Writing

Biographies, factual reports and newspaper reports will be taught in writing. We will use the Olympic games as a theme and motivational prompt for our writing. Geography lessons will also be incorporated into writing lessons.

Spelling

Each week your child will focus on a different "Sound Waves" unit (21-30). Homework words for the week will be based on this sound unit. At the end of the week there will be a spelling and dictation test.

Your child can access games and activities for each unit of work. Please go to www.soundwaveskids.com.au

The kids log in is: toys610



Mathematics

Your child will focus on measuring irregular area, shapes and angles. The class focus will also involve how to read maps, time and make time schedules. We will begin to review fractions and investigate equivalent fractions and place fractions on a number line.

The children will also focus on their times-tables and will participate in mental maths games and activities. Maths lessons will begin with a short mental game that will reinforce the skill taught that day. Each week we will also focus on that corresponding times tables fact, for example, in week two we will revise the 2 times tables. Please continue to practice this important skill with your children at home.

Mathematics has a variety of activities that can support your child in learning times tables. Please encourage your child to complete work as I unlock the activities we are completing in class. I have just unlocked the geometry, area and location and transformation sections.

Science

The science program will focus on the physical sciences strand. The unit of work explores the Primary Connections book titled "Smooth Moves". Your child will be participating in a variety of activities about forces and motion.

Geography

We will focus on continents of the world and the key features of maps. Lessons will focus on the major countries of Africa and South America and their main characteristics. Students will present a report on a native animal.

Health

Your child will learn how to understand health information of packaging. We will discuss advertising of food and how these advertisements can promote messages which can influence behaviour.

Technology and Enterprise

We will link Technology Skills into our Science program and also with computer based work. Different programmes will be utilised to publish a newspaper article and make an advertisement.

Stationery

Please check if your child requires any new stationery or A4 activity books.

Absentee Notes

Please remember that all absences require a written note on your child's return to school.

Rewards

We will use both individual and whole class rewards. Rewards are given when children reach their own goals and to recognise positive behaviour.

Homework

The homework routine will continue. However, children will complete a segmenting task for spelling. I have also provided a grid of spelling tasks and ask that children complete a minimum of two activities each week.

Your child will be expected to complete spelling, mental mathematics and 20 minutes of oral reading. Please remember to sign your child's reading log. Children who take home books are asked to return these on a Monday.

If homework is not completed and there is no note from a parent, your child will be asked to finish their homework during their free time on a Friday. Students are welcome to use the 8:30-8:50am time to finish off work or homework if they have forgotten to complete it at home.

Important Dates for your Diary

August 3rd Year 4 Whole School Mass

August 31st Year 4 Class Mass

September 13th School Photos

Thank you for your support throughout the year. I am looking forward to a busy and fun-filled term with your child.

Sarah Helmerhorst

