

Year 3 - Term 2 Newsletter

Welcome back. We trust that families had an enjoyable Easter break. This term promises to be another busy one. We have just commenced our 2 week intensive swimming program. Parents are welcome to attend to watch lessons in action. Now that children are in the middle school, we encourage independence with changing. Therefore we ask that parents do not assist in change rooms. Thanks for your understanding with this.

Inquiry Unit

Our Inquiry Unit this term is "Dreamings – A Study of Indigenous Culture". Through this unit the students will learn about the local indigenous tribes: cultural history, art, dance, the Dreamtime and the impact of European Settlement. The *Cultural Infusion* group will be conducting an incursion at school. This incursion will take place early in Term 3, Friday 21st July and is an all-day event. The students will experience indigenous art, dance, tools and general culture on this day.



On Friday 23rd June, we will be holding a fundraiser for the "*Have a Ball Foundation*". The students in years 3 and 4 will be asked to donate a ball to the foundation. These balls are then donated to an indigenous school community in remote Australia. On this day, we will run a range of ball games for the students during our sport time. It promises to be a fun and worthwhile event.

Education Week

Education Week is from 22nd – 26th May this year. There will be an open day and night on Monday 22nd. This is a time when parents can visit our school and observe what goes on in classrooms.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted on **Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May** this year for students in years 3 and 5. We ask that you ensure that your child attends school on these days. Please do not make a big deal about NAPLAN with your child but do support them through ensuring they get several good nights' sleep prior to and during this week.

Report Writing Day

This term is our big assessment and reporting one, so your children will be completing a range of informal and formal assessments over the coming weeks. Thursday 1st June has been designated report writing day, and is therefore a pupil free day.

School Camp

Our grade 3 camp dates this year are **Wednesday 7th June returning Friday 9th June**. Permission, medical and payment schedule forms, as well as expressions of interest from parent helpers, will be sent home shortly. Please watch out for these.

The thought of camp can be daunting for younger children, especially if they have not had many opportunities to sleep away from home. We therefore ask that you support your child in preparing for this experience by talking-up the wonderful experiences that camp provides (time with friends, outdoor adventure activities, learning to be independent, challenging yourself etc). If your child has not stayed away from home before, try to arrange a sleep over with a friend's family prior to camp. Also provide opportunities for your child to make their own bed, pack their luggage and put away a sleeping bag.



Homework

Homework this term continues to be daily AR reading, weekly spelling and regular mathematics for maths. There may be an occasional Inquiry Unit task. Please check your child's diary to keep track of these.

Concert

We are also beginning to think about concert items for next term's big event! More details will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Life Education Van

From Monday 15th May the Life Education Van visits our school. Each child will participate in a lesson which is followed up by classroom teachers. The year 3 topic is "All Systems Go". The lesson is set inside a futuristic machine where the captain and his crew take the class on a tour of the human body. Travelling through the blood, the class explore and discover how magnificent the human body really is. They learn the functions of the various body parts and the actions required to keep these systems working well.

Weekly Updates

To keep track of our week by week CAFÉ, Maths and writing focuses as well as our AR certificate recipients, please read our "What's Happening" section in the weekly Focus and on our website.

Phew! A busy term indeed! Once again, thank you all for your continuing support of our programs and your child's education. Remember that we are contactable via email or in person if you have any concerns that need discussion.

Warm regards,

Nerida, Michelle, Nathan and Katharine.

