

## Stage 2 Overview – Term 4, 2023

Dear Stage 2 Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome back to the final term of the year - Term 4! We are excited to close out the year with some fantastic learning experiences together.

### HOMEWORK

We have provided students a **Term 4** homework grid for this term. Expected weekly homework activities are spelling practise, daily reading and times tables practise. *Mangahigh* will continue to be updated with new activities, which will reflect the topics learned in class. Homework books are required to be turned in on Fridays to receive new homework spelling lists on Monday.

### YEAR 4 PEN LICENCES

In preparation for Year 5, students in Year 4 will be eligible to receive their pen licence. They will be given out based on **overall** bookwork neatness and legibility. Once a student has their pen licence, they will be able to use **blue ballpoint** for writing and **red ballpoint** for editing, in all subjects except mathematics, which we will continue to use lead pencil. Students will continue to participate in handwriting lessons, where they will learn NSW cursive.

### ENGLISH

Following the conclusion of our poetry unit, students will be learning to read, draft and write imaginative playscripts independently and as a group. We will investigate a variety of scripts and learn to identify and use the features of a dramatic script, such as stage directions, dialogue and props, in order to create engaging performances. This unit will be run alongside our drama unit. To end the term, students will participate in a revision writing unit, to refamiliarise themselves with the structure and features of narrative, persuasive and informative text types.

### *Literacy Rotations*

Students will work in groups as they rotate through a variety of literacy activities including comprehension, guided reading and response to text, spelling activities following the *Sound Waves* program, grammar activities, typing skills and responding to writing prompts.

## MATHEMATICS

This term, students will learn about:

- Temperature
- Time
- Fractions and decimals
- Multiplication and division
- 2D and 3D space
- Revision of earlier concepts

Students will also participate in a variety of maths activities, challenges, puzzles and games in order to revise and consolidate concepts taught earlier in the year. More information about these topics can be accessed through the Stage 2 NSW mathematics syllabus:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/mathematics/mathematics-k-10/content>

## GEOGRAPHY

This term, students will investigate the key enquiry questions: *What are the Earth's main environments? How does the environment support living things?* They will learn about the climate, plants and native animals of the world's major terrestrial environments. In doing so, they examine the characteristics that make each environment unique and the ways in which plants and animals have adapted to these environments.

## STEAM and Science

In Term 4, Stage 2 students will continue learning about the environmental problem of the global decline in insects. Students will continue to explore the question: *What role do insects play in food production and How do we continue to pollinate plants when the insects are dying out?* They will apply science, technology, engineering and mathematics principles, through a series of learning experiences, where they will explore the important role of pollinators in agriculture and then design and build a mechanical pollinator. Students will use innovative thinking to brainstorm possible solutions to the challenges of creating a pollinator for food production. They will incorporate their understanding of the role of pollinators and the different pollination requirements of plants into the solutions they develop.

## **CREATIVE ARTS**

### *Visual Arts*

In this semester, students will continue to refine their making and appreciating skills in Visual Arts. We will be engaging in the art forms of drawing and collage, and our focus topic for our Visual Arts practice will be exploring living things. Our art appreciation skill this term, as we respond to artworks, is observing.

### *Drama*

This term, students will be learning to use a script during performance as part of our cross-curricular writing unit. Students will engage with a number of appropriate playscripts and learn about the elements of drama in the process. We will be focusing on appropriate use of voice, movement and dramatic tension.

## **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### *PDHPE & Gymnastics*

In Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, students will be learning about safety and injury prevention in various contexts, including home, school, and the community. They will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills. Throughout Term 4, students will be participating in the Sportspro Gymnastics program. Based upon the requirements of the Kindergarten to Year 6 PDHPE curriculum, this program will follow several content strands whilst also contributing specifically to the development of students' muscular endurance, coordination, flexibility, muscular strength, agility, balance, and power.

## **LIBRARY**

Students will have fortnightly library sessions. They will return and borrow books. Our learning will involve the discussion of ethical decisions within a range of unfamiliar contexts. We will also work on posing questions to expand knowledge and clarify information.

## CLASSROOM ITEMS

While Stage 2 classrooms do provide some communal items, please ensure your child has the following in their small pencil case:

- 2 x HB lead pencils
- 2 x highlighters (preferably different colours)
- 1 x eraser
- 1 x glue stick
- 1 x 30 cm ruler (non-foldable)
- 1 x pencil sharpener
- 2 x whiteboard markers (preferably in different colours)

If possible, please donate to your class:

- Tissue box
- Antibacterial wipes

Please note that *whiteout* is not permitted.

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Kind Regards,

Ms Kimberley Barcenilla, Ms Amelia Cooper and Miss Rosie McLister

Stage 2 teachers