

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to Term 4, 2023!

## Homework

Building upon the Term 3 spelling program, Stage 1 teachers have reassessed the sight words for each student, identifying the specific sight words each student will be focusing on for Term 4. Homework will consist of the Term 4 spelling matrix, where students can complete any of the given activities, or come up with ones of their own. Students are encouraged to practise their words daily and be able to read and spell them both in isolation and during writing tasks. Students are encouraged to develop their spelling in context and begin using personal dictionaries at home. Students identify words they do not know the meaning of from the books they read and then, with parental guidance, investigate what they mean and add them to their spelling list to practise.

Students have received login details for an online numeracy program called *Mangahigh*, as well as, the literacy application *Reading Eggs*. Students will work through these activities at their own pace, and these will not be marked by teachers.

## Home Reading

We strongly encourage that each child should be reading for 10-15 minutes every evening. This should be an enjoyable experience for both you and your child. We ask that you take the time to listen to your child read the books that they bring home or books from your home collection.

Quality picture books often have a richer vocabulary and are more interesting to read, so these are encouraged when your child is able to make the transition from levelled readers. Some children are also reading chapter books. Please ensure that you chat with them about what they have read to help them understand any new vocabulary and to make sure that they comprehend what they read.

## English

Students will review persuasive texts, including understanding the structure and how to write discussions and expositions. We will revisit how to write 'for' and 'against' arguments to address simple questions, with a focus on paragraphing and utilising high modality language. Through an in-depth study of four quality texts, students will revisit how narratives are constructed and write texts with an introduction, a variety of problems (tension scenes) and a resolution. Students will look at how a story can contain more than one problem and how problems can be solved in imaginative ways.

## Mathematics

This term students will be revising, investigating and exploring:

- Number patterns and skip counting by 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s and 4s - both forwards and backwards
- Multiplication and division (making equal groups, how many are in each group)
- Place value using two- and three-digit numbers
- 3D Objects
- Area
- Volume and Capacity
- Fractions (wholes, halves, quarters and eighths)
- Chance

For further information on the topics covered please follow this link to the NSW Stage 1 Mathematics syllabus:

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

## Science and Technology (STEAM)

In STEAM this term, students will continue to explore the purpose of STEM and develop a deeper understanding of STEM skills and the connections between the disciplines of STEM. Throughout the term, students will explore each component of STEM through hands-on practical learning activities, starting with Engineering. Students will expand their understanding of the iSTEM process, an iterative engineer design framework, which will underpin all further STEM learning in Stages 2 & 3. Both individual and group work learning activities will be used to strengthen essential skills, such as communication, collaboration, creative problem-solving, critical thinking and cognitive flexibility. Students will be exposed to emerging technologies and develop the foundation skills for transferring STEM knowledge and identifying the interconnections of STEM in all curriculum learning areas.

## Geography

Students will investigate the natural and human features of farms. They will describe the reasons places change and identify the active role of citizens in the care of places. Students will explore activities occurring in places and how the spaces within places can be used for different purposes.

## Science

In Science, Stage 1 students will engage in a unit called *On the Farm*, where students identify how plants and animals are grown and used for food production. Students will investigate ways people use scientific and technological knowledge and skills to sustainably grow plants and animals to produce fibre for clothing and/or shelter.

## **Creative Arts**

This semester, our Stage 1 Visual Arts program will be delivered by Ms Bowman. Students will be introduced to the elements of art. Through line, shape, colour and form, students will produce a variety of artworks using mixed media, collage, watercolour and oil pastels. Students will also be working on a special project in relation to their Geography and Science units.

## **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)**

In Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, students will be learning about safety and injury prevention in different settings, including home, school, and when crossing roads. They will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills, including running, jumping, hopping, skipping, throwing, and catching.

## **Library**

Library lessons will be taught by Ms Whelan. Your child is able to borrow two books each fortnight to take home. The library is also open before school if they would like to borrow and return more frequently.

## **Contacting Classroom teachers**

If you would like to get in touch with your classroom teacher, please send an email to the school with the name and class of your child in the subject line and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

## **Classroom Communal Items**

All stationery items are for communal use within the classroom as Stage 1 students do not use personal pencil cases.

Option: if you are in the position to assist, please organise the following items listed below for communal use;

- Tissues
- Disinfectant wipes

Looking forward to an exciting term ahead,

Louise Jennett, Noelle Lydon, Ariana Davis, Sophie Parsons and Emma Archibald

Stage 1 team