



Stage Three Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to term 1! This term is traditionally busy as we settle into our classes and the Year 5 students adapt to learning in Stage Three and Year Six take on the school leadership responsibilities. We begin the term with our updated leadership passports and leadership camp at the Great Aussie Bush Camp, Tea Gardens. Our Meet the Teacher evening will be on Monday 13 February, please check the school newsletter for times. Semester 1 goal setting 3-way interviews will be held later this term. It is an expectation that students attend these interviews with parents/carers. This year NAPLAN has been scheduled to begin March 15 for Year 5 students. Students will be assessed on reading comprehension, spelling and grammar, numeracy and writing.

The term will end with Easter celebrations including the Pedlars Parade in conjunction with the Easter Hat Parade for K-2 students.

The following information provides details for important events and activities this term.

Subject Rotations

The students will have subject rotations on Monday and Tuesday. This is part of our senior school model. The students will participate in lessons in three subject areas.

Science with Mrs Wieden, History and Geography with Mr Harty and Personal Development and Health with Mrs Ortolani. Students will be split into 4 graded groups for Mathematics lessons which will be held Monday-Thursday.

Sport

Summer Sport will commence this term. Options for stage 3 students include: surfing (available to year 6 only), PSSA touch football and Sydney University multi sports coaching. Please remember to wear appropriate footwear and sun protection and bring a water bottle for these activities.

Homework

Students are expected to complete 3 high quality home projects this term, related to our Geography and Science themes of natural disasters. In addition, practice of Maths and Spelling should be completed throughout the week. Athletics and Reading Eggspress online activities will be assigned and need to be completed on a device. It is essential that all students read daily for pleasure for at least 20 minutes (as recommended by the DoE).

The Stage Three Team

Karyn Ortolani Senior O teacher (Stage supervisor)

Lynda Wieden Senior W teacher

Kevin Harty Senior H teacher

Stage 3 Term 1 Overview 2023

Term 1 Literacy

	Speaking & Listening	Reading & Viewing	Writing & Representing
Focus	Students will learn to communicate effectively by giving elaborated responses to questions and formulate a position or opinion on a subject discussed in class.	Students use an integrated range of skills, strategies and knowledge to comprehend a wide range of text in different media	To compose, edit and present well-structured and coherent, persuasive texts and imaginative texts.
Skills & Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and justify spoken and written languages • Construct coherent, descriptive sentences in an impromptu situation • Develop criteria to evaluate the effectiveness of spoken texts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note taking • Identifying language features • Discussing cohesion • Compare and contrast • Identifying cause and effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraphing • Developing arguments • Editing • Using persuasive devices • Development of character, setting and mood in imaginative texts • Inclusion of varied and precise sophisticated vocabulary and language devices • Formulate success criteria for writing tasks that will include structural features of each text type as well as grammar, sentence structure and spelling.

Maths

Each weekly focus area will be introduced with explicit teacher instruction. Students will then consolidate these concepts by engaging in a variety of independent and collaborative activities. Activities from the Mathematics program will be set to support and revise the topic.

The strands of Mathematics include: number, measurement, data, space and chance.

Year 5	Year 6
whole number	whole number
addition and subtraction	addition and subtraction
multiplication and division	multiplication and division
fractions and decimals	fractions and decimals
length	length
position	position
data	data
time	time
chance	3D shapes

Science

The senior students will study the unit 'Creators and Destroyers' from the Earth and Space Sciences strand of the Australian Science Curriculum. In collaborative groups, they will be developing their scientific literacy to analyse the effects of sudden geological changes and extreme weather events on the earth's surface. The students will use their scientific knowledge to help solve problems and informed decisions to identify historical and cultural contributions. Students will plan and design investigations into simple cause and effect relationships. Using multimodal texts, they will view, record, discuss information, collect and interpret data. Students should develop an appreciation for how geological events affect people's lives and influence society.

Geography

The senior students investigate how people change the natural environment in Australia and other places around the world. They also explore how the environment influences the humans interact with the land. Students examine ways people influence the geography of places, including the management of spaces. Students explore the impact bushfires have on Australian people, places and environments and propose ways people can reduce the impact of bushfires in the future.

Creative Arts

In Visual Arts, the students will examine natural disasters as a stimulus for art. Activities will focus on perspective, colour as a mood conveyor, shape and line to express movement.

PDHPE

The senior students will be studying an introduction to the You Can Do It (YCDI) units and then focusing on developing their skills of organisation as a part of the achievement unit, students will learn to set short-term learning goals to help develop good study habits. Students will understand the use of effective planning time that leads to success in learning.

Smiling Minds mindfulness program will continue in the home classroom. This aims to develop the social and emotional wellbeing of the students through mindfulness and to strengthen their abilities to draw on these techniques to assist in their learning and everyday life. Lesson focus for this term includes awareness, attention, the senses and savouring.

In Physical Education student will engage in summer sport on Fridays as well as *Got Game* ball games and skills activities once a week. The school swimming carnival will be held at Botany Pool on Tuesday, 14th February.