

GRADE 4 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 2, 2018~

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A big welcome back, ready for another busy term ahead. We had a great term 1, with our Carnival, Swimming Competitions, Grand Prix trip and the ongoing success of the 1:1 netbook program.

Some key dates for your diaries:

Gr 3-6 House Cross Country - Monday 23rd April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday - Wednesday 25th April

School Photos - Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd May

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday - Monday 12th June

Curriculum Day - Student Free Day - Tuesday 12th June

Semester 1 Reports go home - Friday 22nd June

Parent/Teacher Interviews - Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th June

End of Term 2 - Friday 29th June (1:40pm dismissal)



Grade 4/5 Camp 2018 - Notes of Interest

Our school camp will be in Term 4 this year, from Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th October. We will be heading off on our beach camp to the Anglesea YMCA Camp (website: www.camps.ymca.org.au/discover/anglesea.html). In order to make preparations and finalise costs, we will be sending out notes of interest early this term. It would be great if all our Grade 4/5 students could attend, to build some great life-long skills. We understand that it's a large financial commitment and we will therefore provide payment plans to try and help stagger costs.



Term 2 Project:

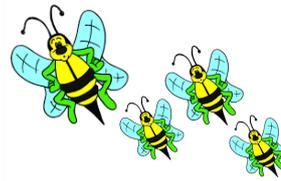
Living with Change

As part of our science unit based around biological science, our Grade 4s will have the opportunity to hatch chickens. This program, provided by Henny Penny Hatching, will allow students to be immersed in their learning about life-cycles and ecosystems.



Active Kids Program

Grade 4 students will take part in the Active Kids Program this term. It is a program organised by the Wyndham City Council that looks at how to be fit and healthy. Children will receive rewards for completing their Active Kids Passport as a part of their weekly homework (please discuss and alternative arrangement with your child's classroom teacher if you wish for your child to complete this at school). Throughout this term, there will be a variety of sporting organisations coming out to run sessions on varying sports such as hockey, dance, yoga and soccer.



Guide Dog Puppy - Kandace - Update

Kandace had an amazing start to school and settled in well, learning to patiently wait during lessons and quietly and calmly attending assembly. Unfortunately she will be away from school for a few weeks while she recovers from surgery. Towards the end of term 1 she developed a limp, which was found to be from pain in her left elbow joint. The surgery has successfully mended this joint and we are excited to have her back pain free soon. Many thanks to all students and parents who respect her and allow her to learn by giving her space and admiring her from a distance.

Term 2 Homework

Homework will begin again in Week 3, and continue each week throughout term. It will follow a similar format to Term 1, with the added focus on netbook-specific activities to try and consolidate the skills learned in class. It will again be handed out and explained each Monday and will be expected back each Friday.

Homework is a recommended school activity as it builds responsibility and organisational skills. It should not be stressful or too time consuming. The activities are intended to support what is being done in the classroom and it is valuable for children to complete each task to the best of their ability (your support is invaluable on this).

Netbooks

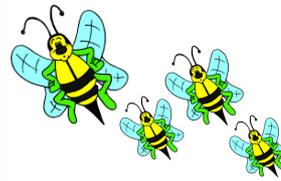
The 1:1 netbook program continues to grow and support student learning in many ways. A big thank you for your outstanding support of the program.



Any parents who still wish to make the second instalment can still do so, allowing your child to have use of their netbook at home. As you will have noticed with the homework layout, there is a large emphasis on incorporating netbook skills and utilising programs we have introduced in class.

We remind students to ensure that their netbook is brought to school each day charged, as we have limited charging facilities in school due to the large uptake of the program and most charging units being sent home.

If anyone is experiencing any technical problems with using their netbooks at home, please write a short note explaining the problem and send it into school so that we can get our technicians to work on a quick solution.



Semester 1 Reports and Parent Meetings

Thank you to all those parents who attended the introductory parent meetings, helping to establish strong partnerships for the best outcomes for our students.

Later this term, teachers will prepare Semester 1 reports for each student to give you an indication of the academic progress made so far this year. There will then be follow up parent meetings in the last week of term, where there will be the opportunity to discuss the report in more detail.

** We encourage that students and parents share these reports together and discuss learning goals for Semester 2. **



Earn and Learn Program

We will continue with our class rewards program, where students can earn money tokens for good work, leadership behaviours, classroom responsibilities and homework. At the end of Term 1, students had a 'Gold Class' reward to celebrate their term 1 efforts. Students will have a similar celebration at the end of term 2, as well as having the opportunity to purchase a variety of other rewards throughout the term.



We look forward to working in partnership with you again this term and having a very successful end to the first semester.

Regards, Grade 4 Team. ☺