

GRADE 3 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 4 2015 ~

Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a fantastic holiday and are ready for a fun and busy Term 4. We would like to wish students a fantastic final term before moving into Grade 4.

Punctuality

School starts for all students at 8:20am. Students have tasks to complete from the first bell, while the roll is taken and money and notes are being collected. Late arrival can hinder students' progress and will make it difficult for them to settle into daily routines. Please ensure that students arrive at school before the 8.20am bell.

Student Diaries

We ask that diaries are checked and signed by parents nightly or at least weekly to ensure that students are reading at home regularly. The diaries are also an effective communication tool for teachers and parents. Please feel free to write any questions or concerns in your child's diary at any time. If you need to speak to your child's teacher please request an appropriate meeting time.

Homework

Homework this term will begin in week 2 (Monday 12th October) and conclude in week 9 (Friday 4th December). It will be handed out and explained each Monday and will be expected back by Friday for correction. Every classroom has the same homework tasks.

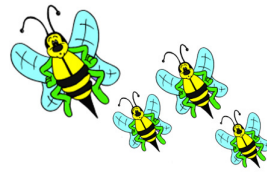
Homework expectations are:

- To read for at least 15 minutes daily and the student diary to be signed by a parent.
- To practise basic spelling skills and strategies.
- To practise basic number skills and strategies.
- To explore fun and engaging educational websites.

Homework should not be stressful or too time consuming. The activities are intended to support what is being learnt in the classroom and it is valuable for children to complete each task to the best of their ability. If you have any concerns regarding homework, please make an appointment and speak with your child's teacher.

Hats

During Term 1 and Term 4 students are required to wear blue hats (i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats), whenever they are outside. Students not wearing a hat will be required to play in the courtyard for recess and lunch.



Grade 3 Netbook Information Evening

Our Grade 3 students are beginning to feel very excited about their transition to Grade 4. They know that they will be using their own Netbook computers next year and they will also practice using Netbooks during their Term 4 Transition sessions. An information evening will be held for all Grade 3 families to explain how the program works. Further information will be given closer to the date.

Reports

Student reports will be sent home towards the end of Term 4.

Literacy

During reading in Term 4, students will focus on reading out loud and using punctuation to assist in fluency and expression. Students will also be encouraged to monitor their own reading, use their voice effectively and self-correct their reading. In writing, students will learn the structure of, and write many procedural texts and explore and write various kinds of poetry, such as alliterations and haikus. In speaking and listening, there will continue to be a strong focus on presenting work and ideas and being a good listener during discussions and sharing times.

Numeracy

During maths in Term 4, students will further develop their understanding of the 4 processes, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and explore the relationships the processes have with each other. Students will also look at the probability of events and chance outcomes, such as rolling a dice. Students will learn how to collect and display data on graphs and then how to read meaning from the information obtained. Finally, students will learn about both analogue and digital time, such as quarter to and quarter past and 5 minute intervals.

Inquiry Unit - Solids, Liquids and Gases

For our Term 4 Inquiry Unit, States of Matter, students will investigate solids, liquids and gasses and how their properties change when heated or cooled. We will learn about the water cycle, make predictions and draw conclusions during exciting experiments and explore what causes heat and how it can be transferred to another source. We will even be experimenting with chocolate! It will be a very fun inquiry unit to end the year.

School Activities and Important Dates

It's a good idea to read the school newsletter to keep updated with important dates and special school activities. Check out the school website at: www.bellbridgeps.vic.edu.au for all upcoming activities and events or the school Facebook page.

Looking forward to another successful and exciting term!

Regards,
The Grade 3 Team