

## GRADE 4 NEWSLETTER

### ~ Term 3, 2015 ~

Dear Parents/Guardians,  
Semester 2 already! Hope you all had a restful break and are ready for another busy term. It was great to meet many of you again at the mid-year parent/teacher interviews and we appreciate your continued support throughout the year.

#### **Some key dates for your diaries:**

Australian Maths Competition - 30<sup>th</sup> July (selected extension students)  
School Athletics Carnival - 13<sup>th</sup> August @ the V.U. Athletics track  
Literacy/Numeracy Week - 31<sup>st</sup> August - 4<sup>th</sup> September  
End of Term 3 - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September



#### **Punctuality**

School starts for all students at 8:20am. Students have tasks to complete from the first bell, and lunch orders, notes and money are to be handed in at this time. Late arrival can affect students' progress and can make it difficult for them to settle into daily routines. Please ensure that students arrive at school before the 8:20 bell. If your child has been absent at all, please send a note to school with your child explaining their absence.

#### **2015 Grade 4/5 Camp Program**

We have had a good response for this year's Grade 4/5 School Camp, to be held at Arrabri Lodge, Warburton (Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> - Fri. 16<sup>th</sup> October - the second week of term 4). Thanks to all the parents who volunteered to help (we had 30!). We have selected a spread of parents from across the team, and look forward to their participation, which for many will be their first camp experience - good luck!

In the next few weeks, we will be sending out medical and dietary forms and we ask that these are returned promptly, along with any outstanding payments by the due dates (next instalment of \$70 is due by 31<sup>st</sup> July), in order that we can make the best preparation for another fun camp. Towards the end of this term, students will have some 'teamwork' sessions, where they will learn more about what will happen at camp, be issued with equipment lists and they will be able to select their own cabin groups.



#### **Grade 4/5 Sport Rotations**

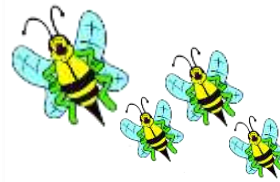
The Grade 4 and 5 teams will be running a series of rotations this term, introducing students to new sports and skills. This will be an opportunity for students to work in teams, develop sportsmanship qualities, and work with different teachers across grade levels, in preparation for the Grade 4/5 camp program at the start of Term 4.



#### **Weekly Maths Rotations**

Maths rotations will begin this term, once a week, offering support and extension opportunities. Students in the extension group will be participating in a series of projects to extend their application of advanced mathematical skills. Eight students will also be selected to take part in the Australian Mathematics Competition.





### Spelling Bee

All classes will be running spelling competitions in order to select entries for the 2015 Wyndham Spelling Bee competition. There will be one entry at the 3/4 grade level, with the Wyndham final to be held on the evening of Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August.



During Term 3, Grade 4 students will focus on following areas of the curriculum:

### Inquiry - First Contacts

This term we will be completing a history unit, learning about European settlement, first explorers and the first fleet. Students will also learn about Aboriginal life before, during, and after settlement. They will need to research a famous explorer and orally present it using either a digital medium, or in poster format.

### English

During reading in Term 3, the students will be focusing on various reading comprehension strategies. These strategies will focus on reading between the lines and using our prior knowledge to summarise the information that we read. As part of our reading units, we will be focusing on discussion texts (explaining two sides of an argument) and narrative texts (which involves creating imaginary texts with a focus on characters, settings and the problem and solution).

### Mathematics

Throughout the term, we will continually revise the key number concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Other areas that we will focus on are money (calculating change), time, 2D shapes and 3D objects (perimeter and area of irregular shapes, and identifying angles), location (using grid references and a scale to read and draw maps) and graphs (focusing on bar graphs, Venn diagrams, pie graphs and using a scale to represent data).

### Term 3 Homework

Homework will begin again in week 2, and continue each week throughout the term. It will follow a similar format to term 2, 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 on Monday and will be expected back each Friday for correction.

### Netbooks

Please remind students to ensure that their netbook is brought to school each day charged, as we have limited charging facilities in school.

### Earn and Learn Program and School Wide Positive Behaviours - Rewarding Great Effort

Last term, many students enjoyed a 'gold class' party session for their outstanding efforts in class and on homework tasks. We will continue with our class rewards program, where students can earn money tokens for good work and leadership behaviours. They will have further opportunities to purchase a variety of rewards this term.

Our school-wide 'bee' token reward system will also continue, including opportunities for whole class rewards. Our Grade 4s have accumulated multiple bee hives/tokens which they will be able to trade in for some bumper prizes. Let's aim for the magic 100 bee hives for the BONUS COMBO AWARDS!

We look forward to working in partnership with you again this term and achieving further great success.

Regards, Grade 4 Team. ☺