Welcome to 2015

Year 3/4 Staff: Rosanna Caruso, Colleen Johnson, Steph Eden-McIlroy and Kylie Ashton.

Our aim is to develop a productive partnership between school, home and the community and we are looking forward to a fulfilling and successful year with the students. We are endeavouring to build a dynamic and responsive curriculum that develops essential knowledge, skills and attitudes in the children. We also aim to build each individual’s capacity to view the world critically and act independently, cooperatively and responsibly.

**English** - We will be providing the students with a range of experiences across all areas of English. In Reading, the students will be encouraged to further develop their understanding of the texts they are reading by improving their literal, inferential and interpretive comprehension skills. Throughout the year in Writing, we will be covering all genres e.g. narrative, recount, reports, procedure, persuasive and explanations. This term we will be focussing on persuasive and narrative texts in line with NAPLAN. Our spelling is based on the Words Their Way program linked with Strategies for an Effective Speller. In addition students will take home spelling words each week to learn and as necessary personal words from their own writing. Speaking and Listening will include formal and informal activities to raise the listening vocabulary and concentration level of the students e.g. oral presentations to the class, circle time and structured listening comprehension.

**Numeracy** - The students will be provided with a variety of activities to build competency and confidence in each of the strands of AusVELS. We will endeavour to provide students with essential mathematical skills and knowledge in *Number and Algebra*, *Measurement and Geometry*, and *Statistics and Probability*. We will extend the students’ understanding of working mathematically and develop ideas for incorporating the four proficiency strands into our daily teaching. The four proficiency strands Understanding, Fluency, Reasoning and Problem Solving are interwoven and provide a framework for us to use when planning students’ mathematical experiences. This term we will be focussing on revising place value, counting patterns, engaging with subtraction and addition and their link with one another. As well as visiting time, length and mass.

**NAPLAN** will be held in second term from May 12-14. All Grade 3 students will complete a test in Maths, Reading, Writing and Spelling. Students will be given opportunities to engage with and practise their skills for NAPLAN closer to the date.

**Homework** will be beginning next week and is due back to school each Friday or Monday depending which class your child is in. The most important part of our students’ homework is reading for 20 minutes per night. It is highly recommended that parents are a part of this practise by listening to their child read. Students need to practise their times tables, learn their spelling and complete a maths sheet, or similar.
201 Literacy And Numeracy Tips
This booklet provides handy hints for families to develop literacy and maths skills outside of school hours. The booklet is divided into literacy and numeracy sections for two age groups: Before School-Year 2, and Year 3 – Year 6
To access online copies go to:

Investigations – Humanities, Science and Geography – This term, Year 3/4 students will be learning about the history of Australia’s Indigenous People and Australian settlement. Including, ‘First Contacts’ and the ‘First Fleet’. Through this we will be looking at what it means to be an Australian and what events and people have shaped our past and present. We will close with the question ‘What can we do to shape Australia?’ where the students will have the opportunity to explore their rights and responsibilities and how this can continue to shape Australia. During the term, the students will be given an opportunity to investigate an interest they may have in relation to the topic that we are covering. The Educational Research Project (ERP) will be completed and presented in class time.

Hats: In Term 1 and 4 hats are compulsory for all outside activities. However, hats are necessary in Term 2 and 3 depending on the UV rating.

Drink Bottles: All students need a named water bottle for use in the classroom.

Sport: Year 3/4 sport is held every Tuesday and students are expected to wear appropriate shoes. They will need to have a drink bottle to take with them, as well as their hat. It is advised that sunscreen is applied before school. You will need to provide a note if your child will not be participating in these activities.

Visual Arts - All students need a smock to participate in Art.

YOU CAN DO IT! - is based on the five foundations Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Confidence and Resilience. This term we are focusing on Getting Along and Organisation and students will be involved in activities aimed at developing skills in these areas.

Year 3/4 Excursions and Camp - As part of this terms investigation, students will be attending two incursions – Aboriginal for a Day (full day, 23rd February) and History Box (half day, 3rd March). This year the Year 3/4 camp will be held at Arrabri, near Warbuton, in early September. Further details about the costs involved and the program will be provided at a later date.

Communication – If your child unexpectedly needs to attend OOSHC after school, please contact OOSHC or the office directly. If your child is to be collected by another parent, a note is required informing the class teacher of your intention.

Please feel free to contact the class teacher if you have any queries or concerns at any time. If you require more than a few minutes, we recommend making a mutually suitable time with your child’s teacher, as we often have meetings before and after school.

Thank you.

3/4 Teaching Team