

February 2018

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Term 1 Overview

TR1, TR5, TR6 Year 3 Mertz Building



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Welcome to term one and to year three. We will generally spend the first few weeks building up our routines, expectations and creating new relationships. This is important because it enables us to plan more engaging and relevant learning opportunities to match your children's skills and interests this year. It also means we get to make a team that enables a safe place for learning with respect, a growth mindset and by being powerful learners.

Our classes will continue to work in a variety of ways with the rest of the school. We will also work with the other straight and mixed year three and four classes. We will do this as individual classes, in small groups and as a large cohort for a variety of activities.

The following is our overview for this term and it should be noted that, it is flexible, as individual student needs may require modifications to best suit our learning intentions.

Welcome to year 3 and we hope to have a positive and rewarding year working together. Please let us know if there is any way we can better help the needs of your child by visiting us or dropping us a note.

English

Our focus this term will be on the narrative and description genres, with a brief refresher on exposition, ready for NAPLaN. This will include exploring, developing and writing our own texts to share. Through this, we will be looking at structure, spelling, grammar and appropriate punctuation. We are lucky enough to have Sofia Zissopoulos our EALD teacher, working with us to support better quality work for our students.

As part of the whole school reading agreement, we will continue to work through the skills of being good readers and develop greater reading, with a focus on comprehension. We will be practicing these skills in our daily reading groups. Hopefully, your children are using visualising, summarising and determining importance in their reading at home with you. In class, we will revisit and explore these and the other skills in detail with increasingly more complex texts.

Students will continue to practice and improve their spelling by using appropriate strategies and self-checking to identify and correct errors. We are also using the skills of good listeners to listen to others and give constructive feedback that is respectful and useful.

Mathematics

In mathematics, this term our focus is initially on number sense and we will investigate and explore place value, number patterns, data and problem solving. We continue to work on Natural Maths strategies and are working as a whole year three and four team to plan quality learning and assessment. We will also visit one NAPLaN question per week to deconstruct and use better strategies when problem solving unfamiliar questions.

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Important Dates:

Term 1 begins

29th January

Acquaintance Night

Tuesday 13th of February

5:45-6:45pm

School Photos

14th of March

Good Friday

30th of March

Easter Monday

2nd of April

Three Way Interviews

Week beginning 3rd of April

Last Day of Term 1

Friday 13th of April

(2:00pm dismissal and casual day with gold coin donation)

Our maths lessons have two main styles; regular maths games to build skill and speed as well as our daily maths lessons, which start with a mental routine, explore and work through a problematised situation and finish by reflecting on different strategies used and the efficiency of their choices as accurate problem solvers.

Other Learning Areas

This term we will focus mostly on science, technology, technologies and visual arts. Our HASS subjects of history and geography will be briefly linked, where appropriate but not have a major focus until term two. Students will continue to explore the Child Protection Curriculum in class to support safe behaviours and safe personal development.

In science, we are exploring earth and space sciences and will investigate how the Earth's rotation on its axis causes night and day as well as other celestial events, like our recent Blue Blood Super Moon. This will link with our technology work around STEM and problems solving.

In visual art, we are learning new visual art techniques as well as indigenous art styles and artist's work.

Specialist Teachers

We now have a specialist lesson every day. Please refer to the note in your child's communication book which highlights when and where your child will be. This is especially important for late drop offs, early pick-ups, flood days and hot lunch deliveries.

Three Way Interviews

Our annual three way interviews will be in week 10 this term. Booking information will be available in the next few weeks. However, please feel free to see us before this if you have any queries or concerns. If it is brief, please visit us before or after school. If you would like to make an appointment for a more detailed conversation, then use the communication book or email us on the appropriate address below.

We look forward to working with you, in making this a positive and powerful year of learning and development for your child.

Kind regards,

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