

February 2019

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Term 1 Overview

TR5/6 Year 3/4 Mertz Building



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Welcome to term one and to year three/four. 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 class 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 TR5 and TR6, 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 or dropping us a note.

English

Our main focus this term will be on the narrative and description genres. 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.

As part of the whole school reading agreement we will continue to work through the skills of being good readers and develop greater reading comprehension by practicing the skills in our daily reading groups. Hopefully, your children are using visualising, summarising, determining importance and the others in their reading at home with you. In class, we will revisit and explore these and the others in greater 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 and patterns, we will investigate and explore this using measurement as a focus. We continue to check that your students are using the Big Ideas in Number skills and are auditing them on their number fact knowledge. This enables us to find gaps and identify those that need extension. We 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

Tuesday, 29th January

Acquaintance Night

Tuesday, 12th of February

Planetarium Excursion

Tuesday, 5th of March

Adelaide Cup Holiday

Monday, 11th of March

School Photos

Wednesday, 13th of March

Harmony Day

Wednesday, 21st of March

Pupil Free Day

Friday, 29th of March

Three Way Interviews

Week beginning 1st of April

Last Day of Term 1

Friday, 12th 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 learning intentions, explore and work through a problematised situation or new skill and finish by reflecting on different strategies used and the efficiency of their choices to make efficient problem solvers.

Other Learning Areas

This term we will focus mostly on science, technology, technologies, visual arts, civics and citizenship. Our HASS subjects of history and geography will be briefly linked, where appropriate but not have a major focus until term two. In science, we are exploring Earth and space sciences as well as physical sciences. This will be supported by our planned trip to the Planetarium in a few weeks. Where we will be exploring how the Earth's rotation causes changes like night and day. As well as how forces can be exerted from one object to another from a distance(gravity). We are also using Makers Empire software to design 3D Bag Tags.

In civics and citizenship, we are exploring the differences between rules and laws and how this affects our lives and the lives of people, cultures and within our classroom.

Students will continue to explore the Child Protection Curriculum in class to support safe behaviours and safe personal development.

Specialist Teachers

Your child will access Health & PE, The Arts and Japanese with our specialist teachers. If you have any queries, please direct it to them and don't forget to explore their newsletters too.

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 before or after school. If you would like to make an appointment for more detailed conversation, then use the communication book or email us on the 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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