



3/4 UNIT NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2023

Important Dates

Tues 21st February & Thurs 23rd February
Introducing my Child Conferences 3:30pm-6:40pm

Mon 27th February
Pupil Free Day

Mon 13th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

15th March – 27th March
NAPLAN Grade 3 only

Thurs 5th April
Last Day of Term 1

Welcome to Grade 3/4 2023!

Students have settled in well and have made a fabulous start to the 2023 school year. We hope your children have been discussing some of the things that we have been learning in the classroom.

We have spent these first two weeks getting to know the students and helping them to get to know their new classmates, as well as settle into their new classroom routines and environments.

We have worked on establishing school and classroom processes and our rights and responsibilities within the class and in the playground. Students engaged in our 'Start Up' program where they revised Grade 3/4 expectations. We have reviewed and will continue to promote our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Care and Compassion, Resilience and Co-operation.

The 3/4 teachers are looking forward to getting to know your child further and creating a learning environment and learning experiences that are exciting, purposeful and personalised.

We believe school is a partnership between students, teachers and parents and are willing to discuss any issues that may arise.

Appointments can be arranged by calling the office on 9306 9481 or via email/Xuno.

THE 3/4 TEAM

INCLUDES:

3/4 P - Mrs Elisa Pannunzio
Elisa.pannunzio@education.vic.gov.au

3/4 C - Mrs Cosner (Tues, Wed Thurs)
& Mrs Davies (Mon & Fri)
Lorena.Cosner@education.vic.gov.au
Rachel.Davies@education.vic.gov.au

3/4 O - Mrs Deidre Ochoa
Deidre.Ochoa@education.vic.gov.au

3/4 S - Mrs Andrea Slade
Andrea.Slade@education.vic.gov.au

3/4 Z - Miss Zoe
Zoe.Sakellaris@education.vic.gov.au

SCHOOL DAILY TIMETABLE:

9.00 - 9.50	Session 1
9.50 - 10.40	Session 2
10.40 - 11.30	Session 3
11.30 - 11.45	Lunch Eating
11.45 - 12.30	Lunch Break
12.30 - 1.20	Session 4
1.20 - 2.10	Session 5
2.10 - 2.25	Recess Break
2.25 - 3.15	Session 5
3.15	Dismissal



Brain Food

We encourage students to bring Brain Food to eat during class time. The food provided during this snack time is additional to that provided for lunch and recess. Healthy foods that are unprocessed fruits or vegetables provide children with an energy boost for learning, develops higher brain function and promotes healthy eating. Children are also encouraged to have a water bottle filled with water only to sip on throughout the day.

Birthdays



Students may bring **individually wrapped** lollies/chocolates to share with the grade to celebrate their birthday. These will be distributed at the end of the day for students to take home to enjoy.

Library



Students will attend weekly Library sessions. They need to have their library bags with them each week. Students can borrow up to four books and they must be returned by the next week's Library session. Lost or damaged books will need to be paid for.

3/4 Library Timetable

3/4C	Tuesday
3/4P	Tuesday
3/4S	Monday
3/4O	Friday
3/4Z	Thursday

Sun Smart



Term One is a Sun Smart term. Students are required to wear a broad brimmed hat at lunch and recess. It is also compulsory that students wear their hat when participating in outdoor activities.

School Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform/colours. Students are not to be wearing branded tracksuits or leggings with logos such as Nike or Adidas. We ask that items of clothing are labelled and to check the lost property located outside Mr Kenny's office for any lost items. Please ensure hair longer than shoulder length is tied up. School uniform is also worn on excursions. If your child is not able to wear the uniform, please advise your child's classroom teacher.



Absences

Please report via Xuno or phone the office if your child is or will be absent from school. Alternatively provide a note upon their return explaining the reason of absence.

CURRICULUM FOCUS

Literacy

Students will engage in daily shared, modelled and guided reading opportunities, where text is visible and students can focus on specific reading strategies to make them a better reader. Guided Reading is used to scaffold students as they read, to talk and think their way through a text that is at their instructional level. Some students will also have the opportunity to engage in Reciprocal Reading where they discuss the text to build on meaning. They do this through using comprehension strategies such as predicting, clarifying, questioning and summarising when reading a text. An appointed group leader prompts discussion for each of the strategies, so that all students are given the opportunity to apply and refine their skills when predicting, clarifying, questioning and summarising. In Writing, students will continue to develop their understanding of the purpose, structure and features of descriptive writing, narrative and persuasive texts. Students will have opportunities to plan, write and publish their own texts. There will also be weekly opportunities for students to further develop their handwriting skills. Wherever possible, literacy tasks will make connections with our integrated unit of work.



NUMERACY



Students read and measured temperature as part of our 'Start Up' program. They used a thermometer and interpret daily temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology website. They then analysed and represented the data collected on a line graph. Students are focusing on calendar work, the days of the week, months of the year and recording events on a calendar/diary.

There will be an explicit focus on Place Value in Term 1. Students will work on recognising, modelling, representing and ordering numbers, as well as partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to assist with solving calculations. They will explore decimal numbers using Decimals.

Our focus will also be on other measurement areas. This includes telling the time, investigating the relationship between units of time, using am and pm notation and solving simple problems involving time. Students will use maps to find places and cities in Australia. They will use features of a map to give and follow directions.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Students will work on identifying and describing spatial characteristics of Australia, and the characteristics of places and environments at a range of scales. They will also explore identifying and explaining interconnections and locations, including Australia's neighbouring countries.



SPORT

Westbreen Primary School aims to improve student's Fundamental Movement Skills to encourage lifelong participation in physical activity. These will include skills such as:

- Throwing and Catching
- Balancing and dodging
- Side gallop, hop, skip
- Two hand strike



Sporting sessions are tailored to students' needs and are skill based. We hope to create stronger links between children and local sporting clubs, nurturing a lifelong love of sport.

HOMWORK

Homework benefits students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. The link between home and school is a vital component for each child's success at school. Homework provides a valuable link between learning at school and learning at home. Parents, in partnership with the school, can encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.

Grade 3/4 students are expected to complete homework no more than 30 minutes/day or 120 minutes of homework in any one week. Please note that students are not expected to complete homework tasks/projects on the weekends or during school holidays.

Students receive homework on Monday and it is expected that it is returned by Friday every week.

Students use their diaries daily to record reading, homework and other important school dates.

Homework tasks may consist of:

- **Reading** for 15 minutes per night. Students will be asked to complete a summary of the book or of a chapter they have read during the week.
- A reading activity.
- **Spelling** words – students use the Look, Say Cover, Write, Check strategy to practise their words and complete accompanying activities such as putting words in a sentence, alphabetical order, identifying syllables etc.
- **Maths** activities. Students will receive a revision of the activities completed during the week
- **Integrated studies** – Students will receive an activity revising work covered in the classroom
- **PROJECT:** There will be **one project** per term. Students will be given some classroom time to research their project. Students are asked to collate, sort and publish the information at home. Other homework tasks will be altered to ensure projects are successfully completed by the due date.

We encourage students to discuss their weekly homework tasks with their parents/guardians.

We understand that students may be involved in a variety of extracurricular activities/family commitments; if this affects your child not being able to complete homework for that week, please write a note in your child's diary or contact the classroom teacher via Xuno, email or by contacting the school office.

3/4 SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

	Italian - Signora Angela & Trish Giacomazzi	Arts - Ms Mahlis	Science - Mr Blakey & Ms Mahlis	Music - Mrs Delacoe	Social Skills - Mrs Wileman
3/4C	Monday	Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	Wednesday
3/4P	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday
3/4S	Wednesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday
3/4O	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday
3/4Z	Wednesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday

NAPLAN - National Assessment Program

The Grade 3s will participate in the NAPLAN testing this term, from 15th – 27th March.

The NAPLAN test results provide diagnostic information for parents about a child’s performance in Literacy and Numeracy. At school, this information will be used to support teaching and learning programs and improve student outcomes. We wish our Grade 3 students all the very best with their very first NAPLAN testing.

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN please speak to your child’s classroom teacher or visit the NAPLAN website www.naplan.edu.au where you will find answers to frequently asked questions and information regarding past tests and sample questions.

Find below the NAPLAN test window.

