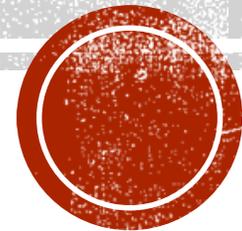


**WELCOME TO
GRADE 3 / 4
INFORMATION
SESSION
2021**



CLASS NEWSLETTER

THINGS CHANGE EACH TERM, SO WE WILL SEND OUT A CLASSROOM/ TEAM NEWSLETTER EARLY TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE.

WE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHAT'S PLANNED FOR THAT TERM AND THE CURRICULUM TO BE COVERED.

Ms Kennedy & Mrs Kirkpatrick
& Mrs Grant
Term 1 Newsletter 2021

Highlight
Term 1
Athletics Sports

Dear Parents/Guardians
We would like to welcome back our 2020 parents and those new to the grade 3/4 unit for 2021. We will be sending out a newsletter each term with the aim of keeping you informed and up to date with what is happening in the 3/4 unit. We are looking forward to a wonderful year, De, Kim and Emma.

Homework
Homework is a regular and essential part of your child's education. It is important that your child develops routine and good work habits now to assist with their future. Keep an eye out for that homework book leaving.

Reading
Having your child read each night at home is the best homework you can do. Filling in the diary and returning it each day is something we expect from everyone.



Communication and Procedure

1. Student Diaries - Please feel free to write any messages you wish as well as recording your child's reading.
2. Newsletters will be emailed each Wednesday.
3. Notes will go home regularly so check your child's bag.
4. The school's Web Page and Facebook both contain up to date information.
5. For absences please let the school know by either ringing 54436411, sending along a note or putting it on Sentral.
6. Late arrivals need to sign in at the office.
7. Staff can be reached via email or through the office.

Curriculum

English

Writing: Learning what the traits of good writing are and how to write descriptively.

Reading: Learning how to choose 'Just Right' books and the strategies of visualizing, making connections and asking questions as you read.

Maths: Place Value, Number Sense, mental strategies, length and interpreting data.

Inquiry: 'Australia's Animals' look at Australia's unique animals and their environments and what affects their existence. By working together we aim to help your child become a responsible and independent learner.

Timetable:
Ms Kennedy - Room 2
Mrs Kirkpatrick & Mrs Grant - Room 1

Class	Reading	P.L.	Maths	English
Writing	Reading	Maths	Reading	ENGLISH
Writing	Maths	English	Reading	READING
Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	English
Writing	Maths	Reading	ART	Maths

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45-9:45	READING	READING	READING	READING	READING
9:45-10:45	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS
10:45-11:45	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	READING	MATHS
11:45-12:45	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	READING	MATHS
12:45-1:45	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS
1:45-2:45	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS
2:45-3:45	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS	MATHS

USEFUL INFORMATION

- Canteen Orders are Wednesday
- Asthma: Children require their own spacer if using their own at school.
- Due to children with allergies please try to avoid foods containing nuts and try to limit wrappers to help our canteen staff.

For those who don't know us. Let us introduce:

RM 2 is Mrs K RM 4 is Mrs K & Mrs Grant



TERM 1 DATES

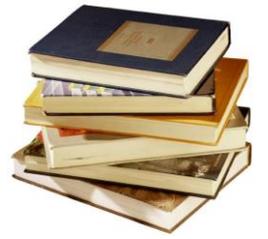
- Welcome BBQ & Information Sessions - Thurs, Feb 4th - 6.00pm
- Wilson Information Night & BBQ Feb 11th - 6.30 pm
- Clean Up Australia - Fri Feb 26th
- Labour Day Holiday - Monday, March 8th
- Wilson Information Night - 6.30 pm
- Student free day - Friday, February 12th.
- Athletic Sports - Friday, March 19th



TERM ONE CURRICULUM



English



Writing: *Writing is done everyday and uses the 6 + 1 Traits model to develop students writing. The model is based on the premise that good writing consists of a good Idea, strong vocabulary, fluent sentences, a writer's voice and includes conventions ie punctuation.*

This term students are learning what the traits of good writing are, where to find ideas and how to write descriptively and construct a narrative.

Handwriting: *Explicit lessons are done on letter formation, size and spacing. Students work towards developing fluency and neatness.*

Reading: *Reading is done everyday and consists of independent reading, explicit teaching of comprehension strategies and small group guided sessions.*

This term students are learning how to choose 'Just Right' books, visualize as they read and make connections to help with comprehension.

Spelling: *Consists of the SMART spelling approach and personal spelling words.*

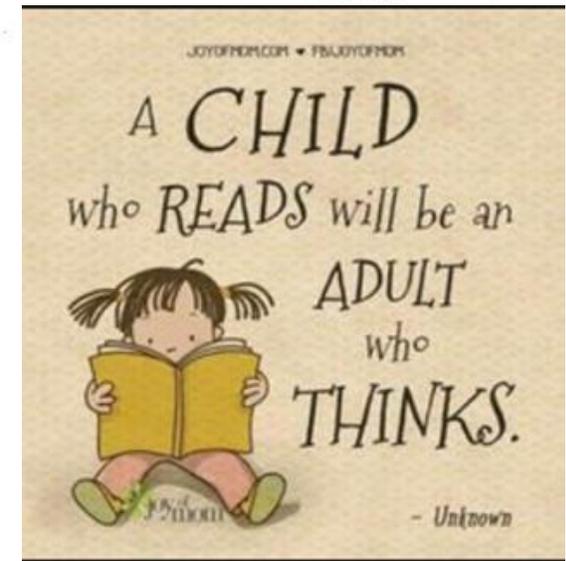


WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME.

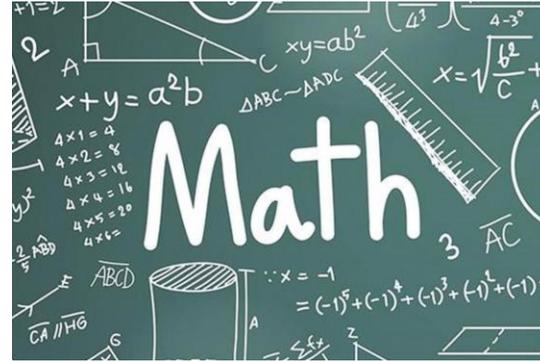
- 1. Have your child read each night to you, an adult, sibling or independently.**
- 2. Help them choose 'Just Right' books.**
- 3. Read to them sometimes and make it fun.**
- 4. Talk about what they are reading, ask questions.**
- 5. Encourage your child to record what they read in their diaries and send these every day.**
- 6. Write letters, list, read recipes etc.**
- 7. Practise spelling and handwriting**
- 8. Talk to them and take an interest in their schoolwork.**

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.

-- Dr. Seuss



MATHS



■ Number –

Students in Grade 3/4 will learn about the place value of digits in numbers and will read, write, represent and order numbers to at least 1 000, extending to 10 000 and beyond. They will identify numbers as being odd or even and round numbers up to the nearest 10 / 100. They will locate numbers on number charts and number lines and predict what 1 more, 1 less, 10 more and less and 100 more and less will be. They will develop number sense through games and hands on activities.

Measurement and Geometry

Students will measure, order and compare objects using familiar metric units of length, mass and capacity. They use scaled instruments to measure and compare lengths, masses, capacities and temperatures.

Statistics and Probability

Students collect data, organise into categories and create displays using lists, tables, picture graphs and simple column graphs with and without computers.

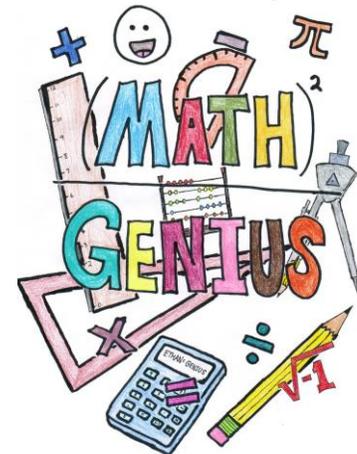


MATHS

I will be running intervention and tutoring groups for some students.

Things you can do at home.

- *Play board games*
- *Encourage your child to use Mathletics or Prodigy if they get computer time.*
- *Talk about money when shopping.*
- *Tell the time*



INQUIRY



- *Investigation v Inquiry*
- *Each term we focus on a new Inquiry, this term being Australia's Endangered Species- a look at what animals are threatened, their environments and the what impacts their existence.*
- *Voice and choice*
- *Homework should be fun and not contain new work.*

What you can do at home.

- *Discuss the inquiry topic with your child.*
- *Engage with your child's homework and help them to establish positive*



TRANSITION

- 1. Transitioning from the junior unit to the middle unit can be a big step for students.***
- 2. Physically moving from one building to the other.***
- 3. Taking responsibility for their own supplies and books.***
- 4. Classrooms are more structured, no investigation time.***
- 5. Introduction to computers, which are used more for assessment, research and presenting work.***
- 6. Increased independence and gradual release of responsibility for their own learning.***
- 7. New friendships need to form and moved on.***



SPECIALISTS

This year the students have an hour of:

- Art with Sheridan Leversha***
- PE with Emma Grant***
- Music with Bridget Finch***
- Gardening with Sara Hill***
- Mandarin with Yu Ling Wu***



We are hoping to offer cooking for the 3 / 4's in term 2 or 3.



Art



The focus in our primary art room is to develop a love of art, of creative expression and the enjoyment that comes from this. Students work on problem solving, cooperative learning, giving constructive feedback to each other and the development of ideas. These are all transferable skills that apply to all areas of the curriculum and we often link what we do in the art room to what I know students are learning in their classrooms, most often to writing as the conception of an idea and working through it to a final product is a similar process to what we do in the art room.

Our art program is formally known as **Teaching for Artistic Behaviour** (more information about this philosophy can be found <http://teachingforartisticbehavior.org/index.html>)

It is a choice based program that allows students to be artists and create their own artwork based on their interests. **TAB** focuses on three main concepts:

We also look at the eight Studio Habits of Mind:

Develop Craft (Technique & Studio Practice)
Engage & Persist (Finding Passion & Sticking with It)
Envision (Imagining & Planning)
Express (Finding & Showing Meaning)

Observe (Looking Closely)
Reflect (Question & Explain and Evaluate)
Stretch & Explore (Play, Use Mistakes & Discover)
Understand Art Worlds (Domain & Communities)

*What do artists do?
The child is the artist.
The art room is their studio.*



Art

This year we are focusing on ideas – where they come from and what artists do with them when they have one. We will sometimes use picture story books as a jumping off point, and sometimes I will share an idea and ‘think out loud’ to show my process of developing it further, and sometimes our students will share their ideas and their processes to inspire each other.

T – tell the artist something you like about their work

A – ask the artist a question about their work or process

G – give the artist a suggestion for something they could add to their work

This is something you can do at home as well, although hopefully we won’t have any more home learning this year!

Sometimes, particularly when learning a new skill or how to use a new material, students might not actually produce what we adults would recognise as a finished work of art. Not every artwork will be polished and perfectly presented. I actively encourage students to use scrap paper to experiment with a variety of materials, such as oil pastels or paints, to see what they can do with that particular thing. Students in grades 3-6 also tend to work on projects over many weeks, and often in partnerships (usually with 3D sculpture projects), so don’t be alarmed if art work does not make it home to be put on the fridge.

Our focus is on developing students as artists and creative problem solvers, rather than having students copy a ‘project of the week’. One of the greatest joys is seeing all the different paintings and drawings that students produce, rather than a class set of the exact same thing.



MUSIC IN GRADES 3-4

The aim of Music at BVSPS is:

- For each child to experience the role of composer, listener and performer
- To provide music activities which are engaging, creative and challenging and promote self-confidence
- To complement the *Play is the Way* (Wilson) social competencies program

This is achieved by:

- Playing musical games and moving creatively to songs from a wide range of genres
- Playing a range of tuned and untuned instruments focusing on musical elements like rhythm, beat, tempo and pitch
- Learning to care for and use the voice to sing familiar and unfamiliar songs
- Providing a choral program for grades 3-6 which gives students the opportunity to hone their singing skills and gain confidence through performance.

I am hoping choir can recommence this year and we will be able to visit Estia Aged Care Facility once again for fortnightly performances in Terms 2 and 4. All going well, your child will be given the opportunity to 'sign up' for choir in Term 2.

- Learning a tuned instrument – Grades 3-4 learn to play ukulele throughout the year. We will begin learning ukulele within the next few weeks!

Please feel free to chat with me if you have any questions or would like more information.

Miss Finch



PE WITH MRS GRANT

- Class Expectations
 - Participation
 - Sportsmanship
 - Teamwork
 - Have FUN
- Suitable footwear
- Hats
- Drink bottle



USEFUL INFORMATION

- *Canteen Orders are Wednesday*
- *Asthma: Children require their own spacer if using their own inhaler at school.*
- *Due to children with allergies please try to avoid foods containing nuts and try to limit wrappers to help our environment.*
- *Please check your child's hair regularly to help control lice infestation.*
- *Hats are required this term and again in term 4.*
- *Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle each day.*
- *Breaky club is on a Wednesday morning from 8.00 for students only at the moment. Families will be informed when this will change.*



MORE USEFUL INFORMATION

- Newsletters will be emailed on a Wednesday, please read.
- Notes will come home occasionally so check your child's bag.
- The school's Web Page and Facebook both contain extra information and reminders.
- For absences- please let the school know by either ringing/ texting on 54436411, or by logging in on Sentral or sending along a note.
- Late arrivals need to sign in at the office.
- When sending in money, please put it in an envelope with your child's name.
- A copy of both classes timetable have been attached for you to have a look at.



TIMETABLES FOR BOTH ROOM ARE ON DISPLAY IN THE CLASSROOM AND ARE IN THE TERM NEWSLETTERS

WEEKLY TIME TABLE									
	8:45	9:45	10:10-11:10	12:00	1:10-2:00	2:00-3:00			
MONDAY	LIBRARY	Writing	Handwriting Spelling	P.E.	MATHS	Reading	RECESS	RECESS	
TUESDAY		Writing Spelling		MATHS	READING	INQUIRY			
WEDNESDAY		Writing	MATHS	LOTE Spelling	MUSIC	READING			
THURSDAY		Writing	Maths	Reading	WILSON Respectful Relations	Library Inquiry			
FRIDAY		Assembly	Reading	Writing Spelling	Gardening	ART			

3/4KG	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.45-9.45	READING 	READING 	READING 	READING 	ASSEMBLY SPELLING 
9.45-10.45	WRITING 	WRITING 	WRITING 	WRITING 	READING 
RECESS					
11.15-12.15	MATHS 	MATHS 	MATHS 	GARDENING 	WRITING 
12.15-1.15	MUSIC	CHINESE	ART 	P.E. 	MATHS 
LUNCH					
2.00-3.00	Class meeting 	RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS 	INQUIRY CHOIR 	MATHS 	INQUIRY 

Green - Mrs. K Blue - Mrs. Grant Red - Mrs. Costello



SOCIAL COMPETENCIES

- Our school's approach to developing social competency is based on Wilson McCaskills 'Play is the Way'

Wilson's approach aims at teaching children to be –

- independent,
- self-managing,
- self motivated learners,
- who are able to get along and
- show empathy



We teach these skills through play, discussions and by using a consistent language.

- We hope those who attended Wilson's session last week enjoyed it.



CAMP KOOKABURRA

138 Darrigan Road, Corop, VIC 3559

Monday, 29th November to Wednesday, December 1st.

- **An hour from Bendigo**
- **An adventure camp- canoeing, abseiling archery,**
- **Rope courses, flying fox, climbing wall, orienteering.**
- **Supports our social competency program**



QUESTIONS



***We look forward to working together with you
and your child/children throughout 2021***

■ Dianne, Kim and Emma

