

## 3/4 Parent Information Sheet

### Key Learning Area Focus:

- Literacy Groups-children work in ability-based groups. These groups can alter as needed. Group Format:
  - \*Guided Reading-with teacher
  - \*Computers-Reading Eggs /Reading Eggspress.
  - \*Comprehension-activities to develop literal, inferred and applied comprehension, incorporating Focus on Reading strategies
  - \*Spelling Activity/Independent Writing/Grammar
- Guided Writing-during the course of the year, the focus for writing will be persuasive, imaginative and informational texts. Wherever possible, this will be integrated with other areas of learning such as Science, History and Geography.
- Spelling- we follow the Sound Waves program across the school, which focuses on a different sound/group of sounds each week.
- Handwriting-children complete a weekly lesson, aimed at developing cursive writing. Year 3 focus on exit and entry flicks and later on, simple joins; Year 4 focus on joins of all letters, but not speed loops. Children are encouraged to write in cursive style in all areas. Children will have the opportunity to earn their pen licence as the year progresses.
- Talking and Listening-news days are not set this year but some time will be allocated on Fridays for children to share with the class. During the year your child will also be given tasks which they will prepare at home and present to the class and which will form part of their Talking and Listening assessments.
- Maths- this term the children are working in ability-based groups across Stage 2. Groupings may alter according to the results of weekly pre and post-tests. Group format:
  - \*Guided Instruction-with teacher
  - \*Computers- Mathletics
  - \*Problem Solving/Mental Arithmetic/Real Life Maths/Revision
  - \*Maths Game
- Science-topics to be studied this year are 'Earth and Space'-observable changes to the Earth's surface/environmental effects (including weather and climate); 'Living World'- the effect of human actions on the environment and on the survival of living things.

- History-during Terms 2 and 3, the unit of study will be 'First Contacts'-including early world exploration and the changes and consequences of British Colonisation.
- Geography- focusing on the features and characteristics of places and environments.
- Sport/Fitness-will incorporate a range of sports, athletics, Fundamental Movement Skills and dance
- PDH- topics this year include: 'Personal Health Choices' (nutrition, making decisions, Health services, appropriate drug/handling, environmental health and preventive measures) Growth and Development (life changes and associated feelings, body systems), Child Protection/Safe Living (personal safety, home/rural/school/play/road/water safety, emergency procedures).
- CAPA-Music, Dance/Drama, Visual Arts-integrated with other Learning Areas, as well as a school performance to be held later in the year.
- P.A.L.(Project Applied Learning)-each week your child will participate in project-based learning at school, based on a common 3-6 topic. This term, the focus will be on Natural Disasters, in line with our Science unit. There will be a range of activities for the children to work on, directed specifically at their individual learning styles.

### **Other Information:**

- Home Reading- will begin next week. Could you please supply an A4 plastic envelope/folder for this purpose. A reading log will accompany home readers for parents to complete and sign, indicating that they have listened to their child read. Your child will be provided with readers that are aimed at their independent reading level, which is generally a couple of levels below the instructional level that they are reading in class. If your child prefers to read books from home, these can also be entered into the reading log but please ensure that they bring their log into school weekly so that we can sign off their home reading.

Although no other weekly homework is set, your child may be asked to bring work home that they do not complete in class. They may also receive small projects to complete at home based on our History/Science/Geography topics. Additional Maths and Reading practice can be gained by accessing 'Reading Eggs' and 'Mathletics' at home. Your child's logins will be sent home this week.

- Overnight Excursion-this year, Years 3 & 4 will be attending an overnight excursion to Sydney, September 6 and 7. Details will follow later this term.
- Reminder-please send in a paint shirt to protect your child's clothes during art lessons. They will also need a set of headphones and a USB.

- Parent Helpers-Literacy groups and Maths groups are held from Monday to Thursday. If you would like to help out, please let us know, as any assistance is greatly appreciated.
- Library-library days for 3/4 Blue and 3/4 Gold alternate every Friday. 3/4 Blue's first library day will be this week (February 9) and 3/4 Gold will have their first library day next week (February 16)
- Sport-this term, Stage 2/3 sport will be held on Friday mornings. Please note that your child needs to wear a hat during sport, as well as for daily playground play.
- Fruit Break-please send a piece of fruit (cheese or yoghurt is also acceptable) each day, as well as a bottle of water.
- Health Issues-if your child has any health concern that may affect their learning, could you please let us know. This includes eyesight, hearing, speech difficulties, motor difficulties, allergies or any other medical issue. Could you please let us know if your child needs to wear glasses and when. If your child is attending, or is going to attend speech or occupational therapy, we would appreciate it if you could tell us.
- Family Matters-if there are any family matters that you feel may have an impact on your child at school, it is important to let the school know as we are here to help your child. Please remember that any discussions you have with staff relating to your child remain confidential. If there are certain people who are not to have access to/contact with your child, it is important that we are aware of this.
- Teacher Release-our release times are as follows, should you need to make an appointment to see one of us:

Mrs Barnett-Friday, 9.40-11.00 and 11.35-12.15

Mr Hale-Thursday, 1.40-2.50 and Friday, 12-15-1.05

You can also contact us via email: [rebecca.v.barnett@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rebecca.v.barnett@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[kristian.hale@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kristian.hale@det.nsw.edu.au).

*If you have any concerns regarding your child throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact us, so that we can address any issues straight away.*

Regards,

Rebecca Barnett and Kristian Hale