3/4 Area News

Term 2, 2016

Dear Parents,

We hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable break. Term 2 promises lots of exciting events in the 3/4 area. We can’t wait to get started!

The sun is still trying to sneak some extra rays down on us and as a result we still need to keep ourselves safe. Students are now required to wear their sunsmart hat until the end of April, so don’t put them away just yet.

As it gets colder, jumpers will be worn, please remember to label everything that is brought to school. Otherwise, there will be more and more lost property. Please also remember to provide a box of tissues for your classroom. We all know how much they are needed through the cold and flu season.

We kindly remind parents of the importance of monitoring what their child brings to school to eat in order to reduce risk of a reaction to students with allergies. If your child has something in their lunch that you believe may be an allergen, please just let your teacher know so that they can make appropriate arrangements. Please also provide a list of ingredients for any food provided for birthday celebrations.

Parents are invited to continue to make contact with classroom teachers by phone, notes or messages left with the office. We are eager to discuss any questions or issues concerning your child at a convenient time for all.

Finally, we strongly value the contribution that parent helpers make in our classrooms. Thank you to those parents who are already volunteering their time. If you would like to be a parent helper at school, please contact your child’s teacher as soon as possible. Another parent helper information session will take place soon. Keep checking the newsletter and website for session details.

Andy Glembin, Peta Philp, Tom Spira and Shannon Wilson

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Tiqbiz and School Website**

Please continue to check the website for information and our area blog. If you have not downloaded the Tiqbiz app, you are missing out on up-to-date reminders of important upcoming events. Tiqbiz is available on both iPhone and Android devices. The 3/4 Area code is RPS34.

**Attendance, Absences and Lateness**

Attendance at school is vital to ensure your child stays on track and does not miss out on important learning experiences. However, if your child is away, parents are reminded to contact the school by phone, note, email or via the Tiqbiz app to notify the school of their child’s absence.

**NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. Students participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The tests will take place in week 5 of term 2.

They will provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing and are an important source of information for the school about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement. Teachers will be preparing the students for the upcoming tests by providing practise questions and modelling of how to approach the range of questions.

**Education Week**

This year Education Week takes place in week 6 of term 2 (16th—22rd of May). More information regarding celebrations at Rosanna Primary School will be communicated in the newsletter—stay tuned!

**Term One - Important Dates and Events**

11th April – Students begin term 2

21st to 28th April – Life Ed Van class visits

22nd April – Life Ed Parent Information Session 2:45pm until 3:15pm

25th April – ANZAC Day

3rd May – JSC Crazy Hair Day

4th May- RPS Cross Country

10th, 11th and 12th May – NAPLAN

13th May – Working Bee

16th May – Start of Education Week

18th May – Italian Day

24th May – School Photos

1st June – District Cross Country

8th June – Regional Cross Country

13th June – Queen’s Birthday



**CURRICULUM**

**Literacy**

Reading

Students will continue to consolidate and broaden their reading skills through the Daily 5 and CAFÉ literacy structures, guided reading sessions, listening and responding to texts (written and visual), discussions and presentations. CAFÉ (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, Expand Vocabulary) will provide students with a wide range of strategies they can use to assist them when reading. Students will be regularly assessed in reading and appropriate reading goals will be created with students.

Writing

In writing, the term’s focus will include persuasive and information report text types. Students will continue to develop their understanding of the structure of these texts and the language used. As part of the Daily 5, Work on Writing will allow students to engage in free choice writing and publishing.

Spelling & Grammar

This term we will focus our spelling on words with consonant digraphs (ch, sh, gh, ng), common spelling rules and contractions. Students will continue to receive weekly spelling words with their homework (assessed on Fridays). These words will be a combination of class and individual focus words based on student needs. During Word Work in the Daily 5, students will be involved in different activities to help them consolidate their understanding of spelling and grammar focuses.

Speaking and Listening

Students will be involved in Speaking and Listening activities at school to practise effective presentation and communication skills. At the beginning of the term, your child will bring their SALT (speaking and listening time) schedule for the term home. This should be displayed in a prominent place to assist students to be organised for their SALT day each week.

**Numeracy**

This term we will exploring a range of different mathematical topics. We will be continuing the learning of number and algebra through fractions and money. We will be exploring geometry and measurement through shapes, length, mass and capacity. Finally we will be building student’s knowledge of data collection and graphing through a rich task, which will allow students of all abilities to extend the understandings relevant to them. Once a week, students will be involved in a streamed maths session focussing on multiplication and division. We are also lucky to have Mrs McIntosh involved in our sessions.

**Inquiry**

Sustainability is our overall focus for our continued inquiry this term. Students will be progressing through the inquiry process of tuning in, finding out, sorting out and then completing an action. They will begin to identify different research methods for gathering information and will learn about different graphic organisers (e.g.Venn Diagram, Flow chart) to sort their information.

**Information & Communications Technology (ICT)**

Each grade has been allocated time to use the netbooks and iPads as part of the classroom program. On the netbooks this term, students will be developing skills in programs such as Microsoft Word, as well as using the internet as a research tool.

We will be starting ICT sessions where the students will have a taste test of 4 different programs, and then choose which one they would like to learn more about. Their options will be Garage Band (Music design app) with Mr Spira, a photo editing app with Mrs Philp, Kahootz (graphic design program) with Mr Glembin and Scratch (Coding program) with Miss Wilson.

Students will continue to use Mathletics and Literacy Planet to support their learning in the classroom.

**Values Education & FISH Philosophy Programs**

Our term value is **Excellence** and the focus of the You Can Do It program is **Persistence**. Students will be given opportunities to show their understanding of these important concepts through drama role plays, discussion groups and other activities.

As always, we continue to focus on using the FISH! Philosophy to make our school a fantastic place to learn.

**Home Reading**

Reading at home is an essential part of our homework program. Students will continue to borrow take home books each day, in addition to library borrowing once a week. Please take the time (5-10 minutes) each night to sit down and read with your child. This time allows students to practise their fluency when reading aloud, develop their comprehension skills through discussion about the book, and IT’S FUN!!

Good Fit Books (IPICK)– If your child has not yet informed you as to what a Good Fit Book is, take the time to sit down with them and ask them. Good Fit books are an important part of our Daily 5 program and students should be reading Good Fit Books at home when reading independently. Attached to this newsletter is a sheet we use to remind students of how to pick a well suited book.

Ready, Set, READ!!!!! The Premier’s Reading Challenge is here at RPS for another term. It’s time to dive into your home library, grandma’s library, Auntie’s library, local library and school library to find great books to read. Student usernames and passwords were sent home so books can be recorded online. A paper recoding sheet was also sent out. If you have any questions or have lost your login details, let your teacher know.

To record your own books online visit, <https://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/Challenger/WebLogin.aspx>

**Homework**

We have been extremely impressed with the effort that students have been putting into their homework, and with the quality of what is being presented. This term, an extra task will be included in homework each week. Students are also encouraged to continue utilising Literacy Planet and Mathletics at home. Please encourage your child to approach their teacher if they have questions about the homework during the week.

**GRADE 3/4 SPECIALIST & LIBRARY TIMETABLE**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **3/4G** | **3/4P** | **3/4S** | **3/4W** |
| **Italian** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Tuesday** | **Monday** |
| **Music** | **Thursday** | **Thursday** | **Thursday** | **Tuesday** |
| **PE** | **Monday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Thursday** |
| **Art** | **Tuesday** | **Tuesday** | **Thursday** | **Tuesday** |
| **Library** | **Thursday** | **Wednesday** | **Wednesday** | **Wednesday** |

**Reminders for Specialist Subjects and Library**

* Students must ensure they are bringing and returning their library books on their designated library day. Library bags are also preferred to keep our library books in good condition.
* Students should be wearing appropriate footwear during PE lessons at all times
* Students must ensure they bring their recorders and any other musical instruments for lessons on the correct day

**SPECIALIST SUBJECT INFORMATION**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

This term the grade 3/4 children will be continuing to further develop their fundamental motor skills while having fun and exercising. They will be involved in minor games using a variety of equipment to improve hand eye coordination and extend their skills in throwing, catching, hitting, and kicking. We will also be completing a variety of fitness tests with students helping to measure and record their results. They will then be setting personal goals and working towards achieving them throughout the year.

We have been very lucky this year to receive funding through the Sporting Schools Program. This funding will go towards running a Hot Shots Tennis Program with a qualified coach and some fantastic new equipment.

All students will need appropriate footwear, hats and a bottle of water.

**Krystal Rosbrook**

**ITALIAN**

Nello Spazio-In space is our topic of focus for term 2, offering students valuable opportunities for extending and revising a range of language concepts.

Students will begin by learning the names and order of the planets within the solar system. Through our focus on planets, students will learn ordinal numbers (first, to tenth). The days of the week will also be of interest, as they are linked to the planet names.

For some cultural fun we will discuss Galileo Galilei, the Italian astronomer, who invented the telescope to observe the stars and planets. 2009 was the 400th anniversary of Galileo’s first observations of the universe through the telescope.

Please note that Italian day will be held on Wednesday 18th May (week 6). Please mark this date in your diary and feel free to contact me should you wish to assist in any way. See newsletter for updates. We all look forward to this day with great excitement!!

**Grazie (thankyou)**

**Nadia Tarquinio**

**MUSIC**

In Music, grade three and four students will continue to learn folk songs and dances from around the world. They will practise and perform simple rhythms to accompany their singing. Students will learn to read the treble staff line and space notes and use this knowledge to play simple songs on the recorder and tuned percussion instruments.

I would strongly advise students to have their own recorders to practise on at home, and for them to bring these in to school on the days they have music. There is a class set of recorders that will be available to use for students who forget to bring their own.

Please come and see me if your grade three student has not received a recorder, as they were allocated to students last term. There are plenty of spare ones that have not yet been sold.

**Jendi Bright**

**ART**

Welcome to Term 2 in the Visual Art Room!

Grades 3 & 4 are showing excellent motivation and drive to work towards completing their large individual mosaic blocks; these can be viewed as they progress outside the art room. We will need parent volunteers for the grouting and fixing to be able to complete this project so please let me know ASAP if you are able to help. You are able to view some pictures of the children working on their art in the school website.

For the remainder of term 2, children will be studying Australian contemporary art and artists. They will gain experience in using some of the techniques and skills employed by these artists. Our focus will include using painting and drawing.

If you have an interest in becoming part of the Art Show organising committee, please make that known to me ASAP. Tasks can be created around your availability!

We are in need of many plastic plant pots, no more than a 12cms diameter at top and 12cm high to complete these. Please leave in art room if you are able to help with these.

Notes have been sent home to remind those parents who need to supply their child/ren with an art smock. It needs to adequately cover their winter uniform (ie long sleeves) as well as being of a material which will not allow paint etc to penetrate and ruin their school uniform. These items need to be clearly named and left at school.

Once again thank you to the conscientious parents who are continually providing the art room with clean recycled materials. We currently have children at this school with allergies to nuts, egg, sesame seeds and dust mites so unfortunately I am unable to accept any items which may have been in contact with these allergens.

Once again, thank you for your continuing support.

**Mrs Martinussen, Visual art teacher, Rosanna Primary School.**