

Year 4 Term 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to another fun term. We have a lot of learning planned. Read this newsletter to get the scoop on what is going on in Year 4 in term 2.

English - As a part of our CAFE lessons this term, students will be exposed to a variety of rich and authentic texts. As a class, we will unpack these books and students will develop their ability to 'recognise literary elements' (genre, plot, character, setting, problem/resolution). Students will be challenged to work out what the various authors have done in order to make quality writing. Each book will be examined from a text, sentence and word level in order to show the students how they can themselves construct similar pieces of work when they are writing. Expanding our students' vocabulary is a continued focus throughout the year and it is through analysing these books at a deeper level that will enable this to happen.

Premiers Reading Challenge- Edithvale Primary School are again participating in the The Premier's Reading Challenge this year. There is no longer an online honour roll for the challenge so consent is no longer required. The reading is well underway in Year 4! Students will take a picture of the book they have finished reading and upload it into the Premiers Reading Challenge folder on Seesaw. They can do this at school and at home.

Writing - To begin the term we will be focusing on narrative writing. A major skill that they will be working on is 'planning for success' (Step 1 of our Seven Steps to writing success model). The underlying message as we write throughout the term and that we will constantly be referring back to is that **"a strong piece of writing is always based on good ideas."** Students will participate in a range of both group and individual writing activities to practise 'generating ideas' in order for them to understand the importance of thinking before they write.

Phonics - We will continue the whole school approach to phonics where the first 20 minutes of each day is dedicated to our focus sounds/spelling rule. Students practise identifying this sound and using it in words every morning and during their 'word work' rotation during Daily 5. On a Friday morning, the students will do a quick 10 word test to assess how well they have understood the new rule/sound. The students will be uploading a photo of their tests to the spelling folder on their Seesaw accounts. Get your child to log in and show you their work throughout the term.

Mathematics - This term we are focusing on subtraction, multiplication and financial maths in number. Students will be learning the algorithms for subtraction and learning to apply a range of problem solving skills when completing real life problems, including problems that involve money. Throughout the week, we also have a multiplication hour where students have the opportunity to learn multiplication facts up to 10 and practise the ones they already know. We are continuing to test them on their multiplication facts every fortnight as students work on achieving their multiplication karate belts. We will also be providing extension activities for those students who are confident in their multiplication facts and have achieved all of their belts. Students will also be furthering their knowledge in the areas of angles, chance and area and perimeter within applied mathematics.

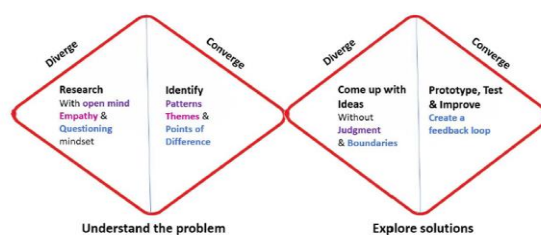
Wellbeing – This term we will have an ongoing focus on learning how to be cyber smart, a skill that is very necessary in our modern world. Students will be watching educational videos in the classroom and discussing the best ways to stay safe online. Students will also be following lessons from the Resilience, Rights and Respectful relationships learning materials. This term the focus will be on help seeking and gender roles. We will also continue to practise mindfulness within the classroom.

Project Based Inquiry Focus – This term we will be teaching Design Thinking while working on this question - How might we design a positive and supportive learning environment at our school? Students will work in groups to research, come up with ideas and create a prototype.

Science - The Science program provides students with hands-on science experiences where they can construct their own scientific understandings. This term, students have been focusing on Biological Science with a specific focal point on our school vegetable garden. Through scientific inquiry, students will understand the living things can be grouped on the bases of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things. This extends to the



Design Thinking – The Double Diamond



students' understanding of the life cycle of plants and that they depend on each other and the environment to survive. Students will implement a range of science inquiry skills such as; questioning, analysing, recording and communicating.

Digital Technologies - The year 4 students will be working primarily with Microsoft Excel this term during Digital Technology lessons. We will be learning how to alter cells and input data. Students will learn ways to manipulate data, for example; sorting data in ascending or descending order, graphing, how to perform simple calculations and how to put a condition on a cell, i.e. turn red when the incorrect answer is put in the cell.

Robotics - Last term the students spent time learning how to block code the Sphero Bolts to travel and draw simple shapes such as squares and triangles. Students explored that the speed and time the sphero travels for will alter the distance it travels. Students will continue to use trial and error this term, whilst coding the sphero to move at all sorts of angles. The students will continue to work towards our big question focus of 'How can our knowledge of coding get our sphero to navigate through a town map?'

Home Learning- As part of home learning we expect students to be reading at least 20 minutes five times a week. Remind your child to upload pictures of books they have finished for their Premiers Reading Challenge.

We would love for families to make learning of the multiplication facts up to 10 a fun experience. The students will rely heavily on this knowledge throughout this year and the rest of their time in primary school. Try goal setting and playing games on smartphones or tablets to increase the engagement of this activity. If you have access to a computer, Multiplication.com has a great games section. Remember students can access 'Sunset maths' and 'My Numeracy' through the Essential Assessments website. These passwords were sent home late last term. If you have misplaced the log in, please come and see us so we can print you a new one.

PE - The Physical Education curriculum builds on previous learning in movements to help students develop greater proficiency across the range of fundamental movement skills. Throughout this term, the learning of fundamental motor skills and movement patterns will be combined into a games sense approach. Students will focus on the different strategies, roles and game tactics involved in invasion games such as basketball, netball, handball, AFL, and soccer.

Art -The visual art program aims to provide students with many opportunities to learn about and create art, while working with a variety of materials, and participating in activities that develop fine motor skills. This term students will be working on a sewing project, circular weaving and paper sculpture. Look out for posts on seesaw showcasing student work.

French - The French program begins to teach students to interpret visual, non-verbal and contextual cues such as intonation, gestures and facial expressions to help make meaning. Students make statements using the present tense and present + infinitive form about self, family and interests. The students in Year 4 will approximate the sounds, rhythms and pitch of spoken French. They comprehend simple, spoken, written, visual and multimodal texts, using cues such as context, graphics, familiar vocabulary and language features.

Key dates -

District Cross Country- Tuesday 4th May

Mothers Day breakfast/activity morning - Friday 7th May

Education Week - May 24th -28th

Open afternoon for Year 4 families as a part of Education week - May 27th

Division Cross Country - 1st June (TBC)

Queen's Birthday (Student free day)- Monday 14th June

Kaboom Sports - 23rd June

Last day of term- 25th June - 2pm Assembly, 2:30pm finish

Year 4 Camp (Term 3) - Monday 2nd August - Wednesday 4th August

Looking forward to a fun filled Term 2 with you all.

Jacqui Miller and Dinelle Bates