Welcome back to term 3, we hope you all had a happy, safe and restful holiday! Hard to believe that it is already term 3, how fast the year is going! This term is sure be another busy and rewarding term.

We welcome back the Melbourne University Teacher Candidates (Rebecca in 2 Yolanda and Jessica in 2 Leah), who will continue their work this semester. We look forward to having you back in the classroom.

This term we have Parent-Teacher Interviews on Wednesday 3rd August 2016. We look forward to discussing your child’s progress so far. More information to come, please keep an on eye on Tiqbiz and newsletters in the coming weeks.

We would like to acknowledge and thank all parent helpers who have been in our classrooms the last two terms to assist. We look forward to seeing and working with you again this term. Your contribution and help is invaluable.

Our specialist timetable has changed slightly this term and we have included the new times in the timetable. Please familiarise yourself with the new times so your children are prepared for each session.

We will continue to promote our school values and incorporate team building skills and Mindfulness activities to create and maintain friendly kids and friendly classrooms.

Looking forward to another fantastic term!

Year 2 Teaching Team; Terri-Anne, Yolanda, Leah and Mark.

**Important dates /Upcoming events**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 August</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>11 August</td>
<td>First Aid in Schools Incursion</td>
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<td>16 August</td>
<td>Tabloid Sports Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>Start Smart Money Incursion</td>
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<td>16 September</td>
<td>Last day of term 3</td>
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**Student expectations**

By Term 3 we expect all students to:
- Be at school on time
- Ready to learn once in their classroom
- Read daily
- Practise their spelling words
- Be responsible for their belongings
- Share their learning at home

**How you can help your child at home**

- Model a positive attitude towards school and all learning experiences
- Read with your child when possible
- Help your child practise their spelling words
- Maintain a consistent before and after school routine to help your child be organised and be responsible for their belongings.
What we are learning this term in the classroom

ENGLISH
Reading and Viewing
We will continue to develop students’ reading skills. Every morning student’s will be involved in a range of literacy activities that will focus on developing a range of reading strategies. We will continue to revise and consolidate ‘Getting Knowledge Ready’ before, during and after reading. When reading aloud, there will be a focus on strategies such as phrasing, expression, and re-reading for meaning. Throughout term three students will continue to be explicitly taught reading comprehension strategies including; compare and contrast, author’s purpose, drawing conclusions and making inferences, asking questions the text answers and figurative language.

Writing
This term we will be introducing the genres of persuasive, information and narrative writing. Students will be explicitly taught these genres and will be provided with many examples and hands-on experiences to explore, engage and create their own texts. Students will continue to use the VCOP program to improve their writing. Later in the term we will begin to introduce Big Write sessions, where students will be provided with a stimulus, time to think and discuss various ideas before writing.

Speaking and Listening
There will continue to be daily opportunities for students to practise their speaking and listening through class discussions and share time.

MATHEMATICS

Number and Algebra
In term three students will explore the relationship between addition and subtraction. Students will be taught subtraction strategies including take away, difference and the missing part. Students will engage in a variety of problem solving tasks and many investigations to further develop their understanding. Later in the term students will be introduced to the concept of money. Through hands on activities students will be able to count and order small collections of Australian coins and notes according to their value.

Measurement and Geometry
The focus in term three will be on area, mass and volume and capacity. Through hands on investigations students will be able to identify attributes, comparing and ordering, using mathematical language (e.g., heavier/lighter) and using appropriate informal units.

Statistics and Probability
During term three students will consolidate their understanding of probability and chance. Activities will allow students to identify practical activities and everyday events that involve chance. Describe outcomes as ‘likely’ or ‘unlikely’ and identify some events as ‘certain’ or ‘impossible’

INQUIRY
This semester the year two students will become Healthy Heroes! Student learning will be guided by their wonderings on how we change and grow, how to look after their health, safety and wellbeing, and how they can overcome challenges to achieve their goals. Towards to end of the term students’ will research self developed questions and present their findings during an expo, with parents and guardians invited to attend.

To support student learning during this topic we will continue to incorporate Kids Matter and Mind Up initiatives within our classrooms.
What we are learning this term in specialist classes

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Specialist timetable</th>
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<tr>
<td>(From time to time there are timetable changes to accommodate whole school activities)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Science/Spanish</td>
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<td>Art/Spanish</td>
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Physical Education
Year two students will continue to be active, good sports and team players this term. The student’s will be taking part in a Tabloid Sports Day mid term so they will be learning how to balance eggs on spoons, throw rubber chickens, run with three legs and even sack race. The focus will be getting involved and having fun. Year two students will also be learning some new Hip Hop moves and folk dancing, developing the skills to play a game of hockey and getting flexible with yoga postures.

Music
This term in music year two students will continue with improvising melodies and develop their own chord progressions using tuned percussion instruments. We will be working with un-tuned percussion instruments to create and play longer and more complex rhythmic patterns. The students will be using imagination and experimentation to create musical pieces in small group setting using tuned and un-tuned percussion. Listening and responding to music and communicating preferences and discussing where and why people make and perform music will round out the content for term 3.

Science/Spanish
Students in year two will be learning about the Earth and its natural resources. They will explore how soil, water and minerals are used at school or at home. While learning this, they will apply their previous knowledge of materials. Students will also explore what might happen to humans if there were a change in a resource. While learning about the importance of taking care of Earth’s natural resources, students will keep developing their vocabulary and structures in Spanish.

Art/Spanish
In term three students in year two are going to explore different Spanish and South American cuisines while exploring different art materials and techniques. Students will be inspired by the work of the Spanish artist Miró to create their own art. They are going to learn about the jungle of Amazonia and create some elements of the jungle inspired by artists such as Henry Rosseau and Georgia O’Keeffe. Along the way students will continue to develop their Spanish vocabulary to be able to communicate in the Spanish/Art classroom. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website [http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish](http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish)