

Year 3 Teaching and Learning – Term 3

Dear Parents,

A big welcome back to all of you! The Year 3 Team all hope that you had a safe, fair and friendly holiday. It's hard to believe that we are half way through the year already. Semester 1 was a fabulous learning journey for teachers and students alike and we are all looking forward to getting back in the saddle.

Another busy term lies ahead of us with many exciting and memorable things planned for your children, including a fascinating new unit of inquiry 'Australia's First Peoples', where students will investigate and explore the culture, experiences and circumstances of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, before and after European settlement. If you have any expertise in this area please see your child's teacher to organise a time to visit the class.

Parent Teacher interviews will be held in week 4. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet with your child's teacher(s) and discuss their progress so far this year. Please make sure to ask any questions that you may have regarding either their academic, social and emotional development during this time.

Westgarth's annual 3-6 sports day will be held on the 2nd of August and our grade 3 students will be particularly excited as it's their first senior carnival! Students have been notified of their sporting house colour and are encouraged to find items of clothing of that colour before the event. We are also encouraging students to think up some positive, team-inspiring chants and songs for the day.

On top of all that Grade 3s are about to start the Kitchen Garden program, which is super exciting. We will be planting, harvesting and cooking with our produce. Student will alternate gardening and cooking on a week by week basis. Please remember that students will still require lunch on their cooking day. The program, of course, would not run as well as it does without the generous support of our parent community and we thank you sincerely.

There have been some timetable changes this term so please check the timetable carefully. Please remember to pop your head into the class and say 'hello' at some stage. The Year 3 Team – Ben, Phana, Lili, Andy, Holly and Jane

Important dates / Upcoming events

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 19 July | Paralympian visit |
| 2 August | 3-6 Sports Day |
| 3 August | Parent / Teacher Interviews |
| 19 August | District athletics day |
| 27 August | WPS Super Science Club Astronomy Night |
| 16 September | Last day of school |
| TBA | Excursion Melbourne Museum - First Peoples Exhibition |

How can you help at home?

- Please make sure your child is at school on time every day. This is particularly important on a Monday for our whole-school assemblies on Brooke Street. Late arrivals do require a late pass from the office
- Please ensure that absences are communicated to your child's teacher
- Continue to encourage your child to read at home and record the texts that they read in their homework books
- Encourage your child to complete all set homework tasks
- Please check that your child's belongings are clearly labelled
- Please be mindful of children that have anaphylaxis and allergies in your child's class when packing food in lunchboxes and when sending any treats for birthdays

What we are learning this term in the classroom

ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing

Students will continue to be taught how to extend their ability to **paraphrase** written information into their own words to assist in developing their comprehension skills. This will include investigating synonyms to replace known words when writing information from texts in sentences. Developing an ability to **review** texts after reading will also be a focus. Students will discuss and record what they have learned from non-fiction texts and write summaries of stories. Reader's Theatre and making movies using iPads are some examples of tasks that will be used to engage students in developing their fluency when **reading aloud**.

Writing

This term, students will continue to explore poetry and informative texts as part of our writing program. Students will expand their understandings of imaginative writing to include a range of different poetry styles. In addition our focus on informative writing, in particular explanations, will complement our inquiry unit "Australia's First Peoples" where students will read and write about the experiences and circumstances of our First Peoples. Students will develop their understandings of language features and structural layout of the genre, with a particular focus on topic specific vocabulary.

Spelling, grammar and vocabulary skills will continue to be developed through a range of activities within the literacy program. Students will regularly review their own work and that of their peers, checking for spelling, punctuation, structure and vocabulary choices.



Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening skills will continue to be a daily focus. Students will regularly participate in pair and group learning situations which will require them to negotiate fairly and effectively with their peers. They will also be involved in daily class conversations and discussions, as well as more experience in completing formal presentations. Students will be explicitly taught to focus on a range of vocal effects such as tone, pitch, pace and volume to relay their opinions and ideas.

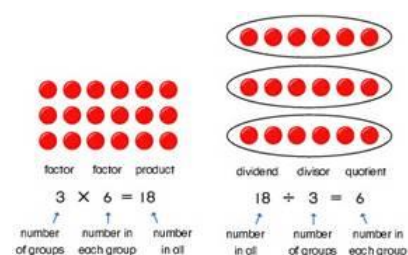


MATHEMATICS

Number and Algebra

This term, students will investigate the relationship between **multiplication** and **division**. They will use concrete materials to solve both worded and abstract problems and use arrays to assist them in making connections between the two operations.

Students will also represent **money** values in multiple ways and aim to calculate the change required for simple transactions to the nearest five cents. This will include establishing a class shop to relate learning to real life experiences when possible.



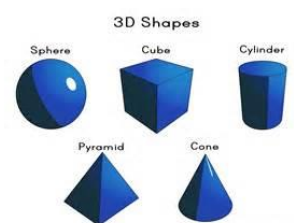
Statistics and Probability

Students will participate in a range of fun and engaging activities to investigate **chance**. They will conduct chance experiments such as tossing a coin or drawing a ball out of a bag and identify relevant variables.

Measurement and Geometry

Students will develop their understanding of **time**. They will become familiar with telling analogue and digital time to the minute and will look at the relationship between units of time, such as the number of minutes in one hour.

Students will look at the features of **3D shapes** and identify the number of faces, vertices and edges that each has. They will identify 3D shapes in their everyday surroundings and develop nets of simple boxes.



INQUIRY – Australia’s First Peoples



Our inquiry in term 3 will encourage students to engage with the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. They will examine European exploration and colonisation in Australia up to the early 1800s and investigate the impact that this has had and is still having on our local indigenous communities. We will also be focusing on the significant ways Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are connected to Country and Place (land, sea, waterways and skies). We are excited about our planned excursion to the Melbourne Museum which will include a tour of the ‘First Peoples’ exhibition, where students will be able to connect with the story of Aboriginal Victoria from the time of Creation to today.

Specialist timetable

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------------------|---|----------------|------------------|---|----------------|
| Physical Education | 3 / 4 Glenn 3 Andy / Phana 3 Lili | | 3 Holly / Jane | | 3 Ben / Phana |
| Music | 3 / 4 Glenn 3 Andy / Phana 3 Lili | | 3 Holly / Jane | | 3 Ben / Phana |
| Science/Spanish | 3 Ben / Phana 3 Holly / Jane | 3 / 4 Glenn | | 3 Lili | 3 Andy / Phana |
| Art/Spanish | 3 Ben / Phana 3 Holly / Jane | | | 3 / 4 Glenn 3 Lili 3 Andy / Phana | |
| Kitchen Garden | 3 Ben / Phana 3 Holly / Jane | | 3 Andy / Phana | 3 Lili | 3 / 4 Glenn |

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Physical Education

This term is all about athletics! The grade 3s will be practising for the track and field events that all students will be competing in at our annual House Athletics Day which will be held on Tuesday August 2nd. The focus will be on trying your best, team spirit, having fun and being a great ‘sport’. Towards the end of term the grade 3s will be learning basketball and AFL. The Grade 3s are lucky enough to be involved in a 4 week netball program run by Sporting Schools Australia.



Music

Grade 3 will continue to learn the recorder this term. Students will also sing and play many different instruments in an ensemble setting such as bass, drum kit, piano and guitar. Building at note reading, composing their own songs, working with others and playing orchestral arrangements and chord charts. At WPS we strive to include theory as part of weekly lessons so that by the end of grade 6 students will have a solid foundation should they wish to continue their music studies.





Science / Spanish

Year 3 students will go on exploring the living and non-living world around them. They will develop further ideas on living things classification, exploring animals and plants variations. While exploring these concepts, students will expand their vocabulary on animals and plants as well as numbers, shapes and colours.

Art / Spanish

This term students in grade three are going to continue their project on daily routines, illustrating one day in their lives using different art materials and techniques. They will learn about the jungle of Amazonia and create some elements of the jungle inspired by artists such as Henry Rosseau and Georgia O'Keefle. 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 classroom you can visit the Spanish website:

<http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>

