

# Grade 3/4 Newsletter

## Term 2, 2015

Welcome back. What a busy start we have had to Term 2!!

### TERM 2 UNIT OF WORK - SHAPING AUSTRALIA

The focus of this unit is on the development of an historical understanding of events which have occurred in Australia. Students will look at celebrations such as ANZAC Day and Australia Day and their significance to our history.

Students will also have an opportunity to see firsthand how a community has changed over time with our excursion to the archaeological dig in Mernda. They will research information about one of the area's earliest settlers, Moses Thomas.

Through the study of this unit, students will learn about life in Australia in indigenous times. The study will culminate with a focus on the contribution of the various migrant groups who have settled in Australia. Permission notes for this excursion have been sent home

### SWIMMING



Swimming begins on Friday May 8 and continues for 7 weeks - **May 8, 15, 22, 29 June 5, 12, and 19. All permission notes and payment must be returned by Friday May 1.**

Thank you to those parents who have already returned the permission notes. Please make sure that your child has all their swimming gear, clearly named, for each session. If you are able to assist us, please let your child's class teacher know.

### NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (NAPLAN)

In week 5 (May 12, 13 and 14) the grade 3 students will be involved in a series of nationally assessed tasks in literacy and numeracy. The children have had many opportunities to practise working on these tasks during class time.

### NETBOOKS



The children love taking their netbooks home and using them for various tasks. **Please encourage your child to take care of them and follow the guidelines set out in the ELearning Code of**

**Cooperation** It is the student's responsibility to ensure that their netbook is charged each day.

### HOMEWORK

As you may have noticed, our Write to Read homework has changed this term. The focus is on developing the children's understanding of the rules and their ability to use these rules when spelling unfamiliar words.

The maths homework has continued to focus on developing problem solving strategies. Each fortnight the problem solving tasks will alternate between maths problem solving questions and using the Edustar apps on the students' netbooks to develop their ICT problem solving and coding skills. The first task focused on an animation program Kahootz. We also encourage the students to complete Mathletics maths tasks which relate to our focus each week. Students all have their Mathletics login details. Mathletics can be accessed on any computer or tablet with internet.

### READING AT HOME

Please encourage your child to read each night for 15-30 minutes. They can read books from the classroom, our school library or the local Mill Park Library, or books which they have at home. Please remember to sign your child's reading diary.

Children can fill in their reading diary, record the name of the book read and the number of pages read. This encourages them to take responsibility for this task.

### 3 /4 CAMP - THE ISLAND, CYC (Christian Youth Camp) Phillip Island



Camp will be held on Wednesday August 26 - Friday August 28. An initial 'Expression of Interest' note has been sent home. This provides some information about the activities at camp. If you are able to assist us on this camp, please complete the section on the camp form with your contact details.

### **LIFE EDUCATION INCURSION - MAY 21 - 25**

Permission notes for this incursion have been sent home. Please ensure that the completed permission form and payment are returned to school by **Monday May 18**. Payment can be made by cash, Eftpos or BPay.

As always, please see your child's teacher if you have any issues or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support  
The 3 /4 team.

### **EDUCATION WEEK**

Education Week at MSPS begins on Monday May 18. Many exciting activities have been planned for this week. More information to follow.

### **COMMUNICATION @ MSPS**

There are many ways that we can communicate with you at MSPS. They include the Facebook group, the school website, classroom blogs, newsletters, emailing, children's diaries, phone calls, informal chats and scheduled interview times. Please ensure that you access all these forms of communication so that you are aware of what is happening at our school.

### **COMING EVENTS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>April 28</b>	<b>MSPS Athletics sports</b>
<b>May 5 - 12</b>	<b>Book Fair</b>
<b>May 7</b>	<b>Mother's Day stall Cross country trials</b>
<b>May 8</b>	<b>Swimming</b>
<b>May 12 - 14</b>	<b>NAPLAN</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Swimming</b>
<b>May 18 - 22</b>	<b>Education Week Excursion to archaeological dig at Mernda</b>
<b>Swimming</b>	<b>May 22</b>
<b>Life Education</b>	<b>May 21 - 25</b>
<b>May 29</b>	<b>Swimming</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>Swimming</b>
<b>June 8</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday public holiday</b>
<b>June 9</b>	<b>Pupil free day</b>
<b>June 12</b>	<b>Swimming</b>
<b>June 19</b>	<b>Swimming Glow in the Dark Disco</b>
<b>June 26</b>	<b>Last day of term 2</b>