

Stage 3 News



Term 1, 2021

Welcome to the new school year and for new parents to the school, we welcome you to the Mascot Public School community. We look forward to getting to know you and your child better throughout the school year. This newsletter aims to keep you informed about the teaching and learning programs, upcoming events and syllabus outcomes and standards. Please contact Mrs Ross if you have any comments about this newsletter or if there are any topics you would like included in future editions.

Stage 3 Teaching Staff

5/6R	Mrs Alex Ross (R/Assistant Principal)
5/6H	Mr Kevin Harty
5/6J	Mr James Ryan
Library	Mrs Economy & Mrs Rajah
Release	Ms Paula Flaherty (Wednesday 5/6R)

CURRICULUM INFORMATION - KEY LEARNING AREAS

All stages will be working towards outcomes in the NSW syllabus for the Australian curriculum. Topics for this term include:

English - In English we follow the gradual release of responsibility model where students are guided to become independent learners. You might hear the terms 'I do, We do, You do'. This refers to the teacher providing a model, the class explore the content in guided exploration and then moving into more independent tasks once they are ready.

- Reading - using multimodal texts and exploring concepts such as author's purpose, main idea and figurative language.
- Spelling - using quality texts provides a frame for authentic spelling instruction and exploration.
- Writing - Imaginative texts. Students will develop their understanding of effective strategies for quality writing and work to create their own imaginative texts.

Speaking & Listening - robust discussions about our learning and rich vocabulary building.

Mathematics - By the end of Stage 3, students ask questions and undertake investigations, selecting appropriate technological applications and problem-solving strategies to demonstrate fluency in mathematical techniques. They use mathematical terminology and some conventions, and they give valid reasons when comparing and selecting from possible solutions, making connections with existing knowledge and understanding.

- Number and Algebra - whole numbers, addition & subtraction, multiplication & division, fractions & decimals.

Calendar of Events for Stage 3

Term 1

11/2 -1/4/21 Swimming Programs (Thursdays)

25/2/21 Fathering Project Launch

1/3/21 Zone Swimming Carnival (Select Students)

3/3/21 Sydney Symphony Orchestra Excursion

1/4/21 Last day of Term 1 (Thursday)

20/4/21 First day of Term 2 (Tuesday)

Term 4

27-29/10 Camp - The Great Aussie Bush Camp Kincumber

- Geometry and Measurement - length and mass
- Statistics and Probability - data

Science and Technology

Living World (sustainable management of food and fibre production) - In Term 1 students focus on food and fibre production processes. They investigate how and why food and fibre are produced in sustainable, managed environments that enable people to grow and be healthy. This strand further develops their knowledge and understanding of the environmental and biological sciences.

Geography

Factors that Shape Places

Students investigate how people change the natural environment in Australia and other places around the world. They locate the major countries of North America and Europe and investigate their major characteristics including the influence of people on the environmental characteristics of places.

They examine how people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, have influenced the country's environmental characteristics.

STAGE 3 PROGRAMS

Creative Arts

Visual Arts - Students make artworks for a variety of audiences using different forms and techniques to convey meaning and represent the likeness of things in the world. They discuss artworks in terms of how subject matter is used and represented, artists' intention and audience interpretation and make reasoned judgements about these artworks.

Personal Development

Students investigate the challenges of changing relationships. Through evaluating roles and responsibilities, they develop strategies to build positive relationships, mental health and wellbeing for themselves and others. Students will also develop an understanding of the importance of regular physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

BYOD - Bring Your Own Device

Students use their device as a learning tool. In class students are using a variety of apps to assist with their learning.

Homework

Homework will be given on a Monday and needs to be returned by the Friday. Each week students will be expected to complete a variety of spelling, mindfulness, and mathematics activities. Students are expected to do 20 minutes of reading every night. If there are any issues with the homework, please see your classroom teacher.

Reading Fluency

Each day students complete a one-minute fluency reading with a partner. They provide individual feedback to each other and record their fluency results on a graph. Fluency reading is important because it bridges between word recognition and comprehension. It allows students time to focus on what the text is saying.

Reading Eggs

Students are engaged in a variety of comprehension activities that have been differentiated to student comprehension ability, based on a placement test. Students work independently through these comprehension activities.

Crunch and Sip

This is a program which aims to encourage students to eat more fruit and vegetables in their day and to drink more water. Each day at 10am, students will have time to eat fruit or vegetables, brought from home. We would appreciate your support in providing your child with food to eat at this time.

Stage 3 Buddies

Stage 3 are helping the new kindergarten students adjust to school life by participating in structured planned activities that help build confidence in both age groups.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ways You Can Help Us

- Please ensure that you label all of your child's belongings.
- Please make sure that you return school notes promptly. Mark the envelope with your child's full name, class and purpose for the money and place it in the 3-6 box, located in the office.
- If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. This is for the safety and protection of all our students and staff.
- Please send a letter to school explaining any absences your child may have had or is about to have.

Class Routines for Stage 3

Scripture	Thursday 2:20-2:50pm
Crunch n Sip	10am daily
Library (Library bags needed to borrow books)	5/6H: Monday 5/6J: Wednesday 5/6R: Friday
PE	5/6R: Monday 5/6J: Friday 5/6H: Friday
Swimming Program	5/6R: Thursday - 1pm 5/6J: Thursday - 12.30 pm 5/6H: Thursday - 1.30pm
Computers	5/6R: Tuesday 5/6J: Wednesday 5/6H: Friday

iPad Monitoring Advice

One of the biggest concerns we have, after many discussions with parents, is that students are being given too much freedom on their iPads at home. The iPad should, first and foremost, be a tool to support learning.

Here are a few ideas that can be adopted to assist you in monitoring your child's iPad usage at home.

- Create a timetable for when your child is allowed to be on their iPad at home and what exactly they can be doing on it during that time. E.g. 3:30 - 4:30pm Homework, 4:30 - 5:30pm Games. Be even more specific than that. Stick to the timetable. Be strict about time limits.
- Apple **Screen Time** will help you with this (see the link below).
- Set a specific time that your child **MUST** be off the iPad. Ensure they give you the iPad at this time and you put it somewhere where they cannot access it. Do not let them take their iPad into their bedroom when it is sleep time.

[We have had many reports of children in Stage 3 being on their iPad until late at night and parents are not aware of this.](#)

The following link will give you ideas for how you can use Parental Controls on your child's iPad:

<https://support.apple.com/en-au/HT201304>



Screen Time

Screen Time — a new feature of iOS 12 — lets you know how much time you and your kids spend on apps, websites, and more. This way, you can make more informed decisions about how you use your devices, and set limits if you'd like to.

Turn on Screen Time

1. On your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch, go to Settings > Screen Time.
2. Tap Turn On Screen Time.
3. Tap Continue.
4. Select This is My [device] or This is My Child's [device].

You can now get a report about how you use your device, apps, and websites, any time you want.

If it's your child's device, you can set up Screen Time and create settings right on their device or you can use Family Sharing to configure your child's device from your own device. After you set up your child's device, you can also use Family Sharing to view reports and adjust settings any time, right from your own device.

With Screen Time you can also create a dedicated passcode to secure settings, so only you can extend time or make changes.

Here are the settings that you can manage:



Downtime

Think of this as a nap for your screen time. When you schedule Downtime in Settings, only phone calls and apps that you choose to allow are available. Downtime applies to all of your Screen Time-enabled devices, and you get a reminder five minutes before it starts.



Always Allowed

You might want to access certain apps, even if it's Downtime or if you set the All Apps & Categories app limit. Phone, Messages, FaceTime, and Maps are Always Allowed by default, but you can remove them if you want.



App Limits

You can set daily limits for app categories with App Limits. For example, you might want to see Productivity apps while you're at work, but not Social Networking or Games. App Limits refresh every day at midnight, and you can delete them any time.



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