



WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL
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Wednesday 31st July 2019

Term 3 Stage 3 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for another great term. We trust that you had a lovely break with your families and are refreshed and ready for success in Term 3. The following is information regarding upcoming events and an outline of our teaching and learning programs for the term.

Listed below are some important dates for Term 3:

Week 2 29 July - 2 Aug	Choir Festival - Thursday (30 students from stage 2 and 3) Whole School Assembly - Friday 	Week 3 5 - 9 Aug	Southern Stars Rehearsal - Tuesday (at the WEC) P&C Meeting - Tuesday 6 pm PSSA - Friday (Sport) Education Week Open Classrooms - Friday 12 to 1 pm (All parents welcome)
Week 4 12 - 16 Aug	Year 6 Farewell: Parent Helper Meeting – Tuesday Muffi Day - Wednesday (Peacekeepers) Year 5 KCoS STEM Tournament - Thursday District Athletics Carnival - Thursday and Friday Whole School Assembly - Friday	Week 5 19 - 23 Aug	Southern Stars - Show Week Southern Stars Matinee Show - Friday
Week 6 26 - 30 Aug	Scholastic Book Fair Book Week Parade - Thursday Father's Day Stall- Friday PSSA - Friday Whole School Assembly - Friday	Week 7 2 - 6 Sep	PSSA - Friday
Week 8 9 - 13 Sep	PSSA - Friday Whole School Assembly - Friday	Week 9 16 - 20 Sep	Rehearsal School Concert - Tuesday School Concert- Wednesday (Matinee and Evening Performances) P&C Movie Night- Friday
Week 10 23 - 27 Sept	Whole School Assembly - Friday Last Day of Term 27 September - Friday	Holidays	Term 4 Begins on the Monday All students attend school on the Monday 14th October.

***If your child is involved in any ICAS competitions you will be provided with the specific dates.**

Classroom Supplies - Just a reminder that your children need the following resources. Please check your child's supplies and replenish anything that is used daily.

Stage 3 – Year 5 & 6		
Communal Classroom Use	Student's Personal Use	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ tissues ○ baby wipes ○ paper towels ○ 3 x 35g Bostik glue sticks ○ 1 pkt Post-it Notes for student use ○ 4 x whiteboard markers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 x HB pencils ○ 4 blue pens ○ 2 red pens ○ barrel sharpener ○ eraser ○ 30cm ruler (not metal or flexible) ○ scissors ○ 2 highlighters ○ 12 coloured pencils ○ 12 only textas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 fine black Sharpie pen ○ A4 exercise book (approx. 200 page) – lined for homework, not spiral bound ○ A4 plastic envelope for homework ○ pencil case (that can fit all of the supplies easily) ○ art smock – large old t-shirt with name ○ sun cream to be kept in child's bag ○ Headphones

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance is recorded daily and it is important that your child attends school regularly as new concepts are introduced every day. Being punctual and arriving **just before 9.00 supports** children transitioning into the classroom and enables them to fully engage in the key routines and activities that each day begins with. For extended leave please contact the office.

School Uniform

At WPS we have the expectation that children come to school in full school uniform. **Please ensure that all clothing items are clearly labelled with your child's name, especially their hats and jumpers.** Hats are an essential part of our school uniform which need to be worn everyday. If you are missing any clothing, please see your child's teacher to access the lost property.

Sickness and Medication

Please notify the front office administrative staff of absences and remember that if your child is unwell, please ensure they stay home for a day or two to rest and recuperate. They will be better equipped to manage their work on their return and we have the best chance of minimising the spread of bugs. Also, if your child has any medication needs, please ensure all details are up to date with the school office. Any child with asthma should carry their puffer with them during the school day. Finally, it is incredible the number of tissues we use, particularly once sniffle season starts. Soft tissues are always gratefully received. If you can send a box (or two) for class consumption that would be terrific!

Term 3 Learning Programs

English

Literacy is the foundation of most of the learning experiences your child is involved in at school. Teachers aim to balance the program through modelled, guided and independent activities to support and extend student learning. In class, students will engage with and discuss a range of texts with increasingly demanding ideas and language features. Children will be explicitly taught how to research and have the opportunity to present to a larger audience.

Reading will form an integral part during the daily literacy session. Please promote reading regularly at home to expose students to a variety of texts to assist their learning. As well as borrowing books each week during Library sessions, the students will be explicitly taught research skills and will develop their knowledge of literature and Library skills. For our reading program in classrooms, we will be focusing on explicitly teaching reading comprehension strategies to enable students to gain a better understanding of texts read. This involves opportunities to analyse the writing features, text structures, spelling, grammar and punctuation skills and guided reading.

During writing lessons, students will focus on procedural texts linked to our MAPPEN unit. Students will also create texts based around our rich reading texts. Class teachers will explicitly teach the grammar and text structure necessary to compose different texts. Students will be given many opportunities to explain and reflect on how they structure their writing to achieve the intended purpose.

Students will have a personal list of spelling words that come from weekly lists, corrections and vocabulary building from writing tasks that have been discussed with the teacher. Spelling skills and rules will be taught explicitly during lessons in class.

Mathematics

Students in Stage 3 will continue to build on previous knowledge and achieve specific outcomes in each of the Mathematics strands. The program in Term 3 will continue to develop students' skills with mental computation, mathematical terminology, symbols used in number and word problems and strategies to solve problems through working mathematically. The majority of Mathematics lessons will begin with a 'Number Talk' where students will discuss numbers. This provides students with opportunities to learn the language of Mathematics and extend their use of mental strategies. The content that will be covered includes: fractions and decimals, patterns and algebra, multiplication, area, volume and capacity. Students will also continue with their weekly MathsBURST spatial reasoning lessons. MathsBURST is an inquiry based teacher professional learning and student program that develops students' mathematics understandings through the spatial reasoning component.

The OC and Streamed classes also address the same mathematical concepts, working to ensure consolidation of Stage 3 concepts. At times during Term Three, these classes will work together, developing specific Stage 4 concepts and participating in collaborative problem solving. All students in Stage 3 are offered work at an enriched or extended level as required.

PE

Students explore games in order to hit a target; hand eye coordination; using a bat to strike, while stationary, out in the field of players and following rules and inclusion. Students explore various games that require the application and refinement of movement skills and concepts related to 'target games'. Through games and movement students are challenged to actively participate in building positive attitudes towards physical activity and teamwork. Some students will be participating in PSSA whilst the remaining students will take part in a variety of physical education activities.

Creative Arts

Students' music and visual art learning programs will be linked to the rich texts that they are reading in class, and will also include preparation for our end of term concert. Activities vary depending on the text and item but will involve singing, dancing to a range of music and demonstrating an awareness of musical concepts.

Science/ History/ Geography/ PDH

The Journey to Discovery (MAPPEN Unit)

This term students will learn about light refraction, electrical circuits, states of matter, and the scale of the solar system through hands-on experiments and experiences. They will build a thermoscope, a paper circuit and a balloon-powered rocket. Students will work towards creating a presentation and a quiz to highlight the wondrous facts that they have learnt during the unit.

Homework

Students will begin homework informally in Week 2. All students will receive a homework grid, a spelling activity list and a reading log. **All students will need a lined book for Homework activities and a plastic envelope for research tasks.** Research tasks will be encouraged to be completed on a computer or mobile device and be submitted electronically where possible. It is an expectation that all Stage 3 students complete their homework each week. Weekly tasks will consist of reading, spelling and Mathematics and the students may be asked to complete a research activity. They will also be acknowledged for out of school activities such as sport training and creative arts. If your child is having any issues completing homework, please contact their class teacher as soon as possible.

Fruit Break

Children are given a daily opportunity during the morning session to refuel on fruit or vegetables and to rehydrate by drinking water. Cut fruit and vegetables are easier to manage as its purpose is for a quick, healthy snack.

Car Park

Just a reminder to avoid walking through both staff car parks or through the gates that connect the car park to the playground. By not walking through the car park, you will be assisting not only the staff at school but your child with a clear and consistent message about safety.

Please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance, or Brooke Axam if you have any issues to discuss regarding your child. Appointments can be made by calling our school office.

We look forward to your continued support throughout the term.

Kind Regards (on behalf of all Stage 3 Teachers),

Brooke Axam

Stage 3 Assistant Principal

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