



Year 4 Teaching and Learning – Term 3

Welcome to Term 3!

We hope everyone has had a fantastic two week break. Term 2 appeared to go past so quickly but as always the students took part in some wonderful learning experiences including collaboratively researching an environmental issue of their choice, developing their persuasive writing skills and exploring fractions and decimals through engaging activities. It has been wonderful to see how committed and passionate the students were during their inquiry research with many exploring issues such as coral bleaching in the Great Barrier Reef, the destruction of rainforests in south-east Asia and declining bee populations across the world.

As always it was great to see students upholding our school values whilst taking part in a range of whole school activities such as the various Reaching for the Stars programs, the disco, Reconciliation Week activities and 3-6 lunch eating time assemblies which started this term.

Term 3 means it's time to prepare for CAMP! This is always a very exciting time but it can also be an anxious time for some students who perhaps have not been away from home overnight. The grade 4 teachers will be answering and reassuring the students about what to expect at 'CYC The Island', Phillip Island Camp which takes place between the 13th- 15th of September. Term 3 also means the students will be busily preparing for their performance in the school musical which depending on which cast they are in, will be either on the Wednesday the 30th or the Thursday the 31st of August. We all look forward to another fantastic teaching and learning term.

Year Four Teaching team: Aimee, Tom, Brenda, Glenn & Dorothy (Dotty)



Diary Dates

20 July State Cross Country

8 August Grades 4-6 Athletics Day

29 August Rehearsal for Musical

11 September District Athletics

30 August Musical Performance

31 August Musical Performance

1 September Fathers Day Stall

13-15 September Grade 4 Camp

What we are learning this term in the classroom

Reading:

In term 3, year 4 students will be focusing on comprehension strategies such as identifying the Meaning of Words in Context, Understanding Sequence, Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences, identifying the Author's Purpose, interpreting Figurative Language and Summarising. Students will continue to read in literature circles on a regular basis with each member taking on a role of discussion director, cool connector, summariser, vocabulary enricher, visualiser, what if wonderer, language detective. Over the term students will read a nominated novel and through weekly discussions will explore the themes and ideas presented in each chapter.

Writing:

Linking in with our inquiry unit titled, 'Art Attack', students will use poetry to express themselves; they will focus on the structures of different types of poetry including Haiku, Cinquain and Kennings as well as poetic devices, such as rhyming and figurative language. Another focus for term 3 will be on exploring narrative texts, looking at the structure, punctuation and language features used to write a story that entertains the reader. We will continue to work on the VCOP elements of our writing program throughout the term.

Speaking and Listening:

Students will develop their speaking and listening skills by continuing to participate in pair, group and informal class conversations, discussions and presentations. In particular, students' involvement in our whole school musical, 'Raiders of the Lost Decades', will allow them to focus on developing their active listening skills. Students will continue to be explicitly taught to focus on a range of vocal effects such as tone, pitch, pace and volume to enhance their performances in front of their peers and a wider audience.

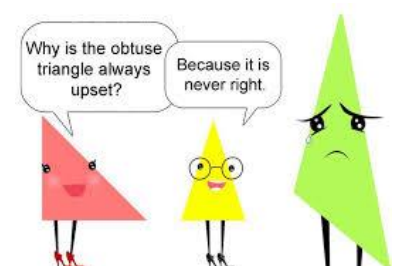


Mathematics



Maths in term 3 will begin by learning about multiplication, building on our knowledge of the four operations. As we will be multiplying large numbers, it is important that we have increasing fluency in our multiplication facts. This is because when multiplying a three-digit number, for example 6×354 , we use basic facts to solve each place value place in sequence (six 4s are 24, six 5 tens are 300, six 3 hundreds are 1800). So we will first consolidate our basic facts fluency before moving on to multiplying two and three digit numbers.

Later in the term we will investigate angles and discover ways of classifying them in relation to 90 degrees. As the clock ticks ever closer to camp, we will have a focus on time, in which we will be consolidating reading an analogue clock and look at elapsed time and the conversion between seconds, minutes and hours. Our term ends with a look at chance, ordering the probability of everyday events and identifying the difference between dependent and independent events. It is going to be a busy and fun term full of learning about the maths all around us.



Inquiry

We are very excited about our term 3 inquiry titled, 'Art Attack'. The essential question explored throughout this unit is how and why humans communicate through the arts? Students will explore and interpret the many mediums that make up the arts. Our term projects will include students' choreographing and performing their own dance routines as well as using visual and sound technologies to create media presentations all of which will be led by the students' interests. The students' involvement and participation in our whole school musical, 'Raiders of the Lost Decades', will give them wonderful opportunities to connect what they have been discovering in inquiry activities within an authentic setting.

If you have any expertise in this field and you are able to share your knowledge with us, please come and see your child's teacher to organise a time.

Student Wellbeing

During term 3, student wellbeing will continue to be supported through the *Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships* program. Students will work to further understand their emotions and describe the influence that people, situations and events can have on their emotions. They will investigate how emotional responses vary in depth and strength. They will continue to strengthen their skills for interacting positively with others in different situations. This will be further supported through regular classroom activities such as collaborative group work and discussions. We will continue to focus on building resilience as students examine how success, challenges and failures can strengthen personal identities. Students will be encouraged to take risks with their learning and set personal learning goals.



What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Physical Education		4G (Aimee)		4T (Rushe) 4AD (Rushe)	4B (Josie F)
Performing Arts/Spanish	4AD 4G 4T 4B (Esmi)				
Music	4G (John) 4T (John)	4B (John)			4AD (John)
Science/Spanish		4B (Esmi) 4G(Esmi) 4AD (Pilar)			4T (Pilar)
Art/Spanish		4T	4AD	4B	4G
Kitchen Garden		4AD	4T		4B 4G
Library		4T 4B		4AD 4G	
ICT			4AD 4G	4T	

Physical Education

This term is all about athletics and team sports! The grade 4s will be practising for the track and field events that all Grade 4-6 students will be competing in at our annual House Athletics Day which will be held on Tuesday August 8th. The focus will be on trying your best, team spirit, having fun and being a great 'sport'. Towards the end of term the grade 4s will be learning netball and AFL.

Music

The focus in music this term is the whole school production "Raiders of the Lost Decades". We will be busy learning songs and movement/actions and learning about how a musical is put together. Students will gain an understanding of theatre protocols and the rehearsal process resulting in the thrill of putting on a costume and performing in front of an audience in a real theatre on a real stage. It's going to be awesome!!

Spanish Science

Year 4 students will be learning how the Earth's surface changes over time as a result of natural processes and human activity. Students will work together to look for evidence of change of the surface around the school area and record observations and findings to examine their results. They will also discuss how changes may have occurred. They will also do hands on experiments to learn how erosion takes place naturally and then analyse how different human activities can increase it.

Spanish Art

In term 3 students in year 4 are going to continue their unit on Australian flora and fauna. We are going to be busy making a collaborative installation using different materials such as clay and mosaic. We are going to experiment with different materials and techniques including watercolour, acrylic paint and block printing. Along the way students will expand their Spanish vocabulary on verbs and adjectives used to describe animals and plants (verb to be and to have). To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.

Spanish/ Performing Arts

In term 3 students will explore the world of performing arts in Spanish. They will experience how ideas and stories can be imagined and communicated through drama. Students will be performing in front of the class and watching the performances of others.