



Year 3 Teaching and Learning – Term 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our final term for 2017! We hope you have all had a restful holiday and are ready for another eventful term. Listening to the students share their holiday stories, we can only conclude that they all had a well-earned rest.

This term will keep the year 3s extremely busy as there is a variety of engaging educational activities on their school calendar.

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program has been proven to be a favorite for our students. This program will continue to run in term 4. If you would like to volunteer to help, please speak to your classroom teacher. 3A, 3G and 3Y session's run on Monday and 3S has their sessions on Thursday after lunch.

Our unit of inquiry this term is titled *Endangered!* Students will explore animals' habitats, endangered species, how living things rely on the environment for survival and how humans and animals can impact the earth.

In term 4 as part of our curriculum, students will participate in a Sexual Education program which will be taught by their classroom teacher. The program will be modelled off *Catching on Early*, which is the Department's recommended resource. For more information, please see the Department's [website](#).

The Home Reading program will continue to encourage students to read a variety of texts at an appropriate level. The school has purchases new reading materials this year and we are keen to keep the collection in order so it can be shared between all classrooms. Students should bring their home readers to school every day. If you have any home readers at home that your child is finished with, please return them to the classroom.

We look forward to an engaging and productive final term. Please feel free to make a time to see your child's classroom teacher if you have any queries or concerns.

The Year 3 Team,

Gaye, Andy, Sarah, Yolanda and Josie

Term 4 Diary Dates

Thursday, 19 October	'Reptile Encounters' incursion
Sunday, 22 October	Whopping Great Fete
Monday, 30 October	Book Week begins
Tuesday, 31 October	Active Travel Day
Monday, 6 November	Curriculum Day
Tuesday, 7 November	Melbourne Cup Day
Friday, 24 November	Year 3-5 swim trials



What we are learning this term in the classroom

ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing

Students experience a variety of reading activities on a daily basis during our literacy block. Each class runs 4 x 50 minute reading sessions per week. In year 3, our focus is on comprehension, reading fluency and decoding strategies. Students will be engaged in whole



class Shared and Modelled Reading opportunities and also complete regular Guided Reading sessions with their teacher. These sessions are ran in smaller groups and target individual needs of each student. All students will continue to take home a reader from our Home Reading Program.

Writing

This term students will continue to build their awareness of grammar and punctuation. Students will be explicitly taught about planning and editing their writing. Vocabulary and sentence structure will also be a focus. Students will be given many opportunities to practise these skills.

Students are given opportunities daily to practise their writing. This includes exploring different text types, which will include the study of narratives, information reports and poetry in term 4.

Speaking and Listening

At school, students are continually involved in situations where they need to listen to and speak with others. Students will be given opportunities to practise these skills during class discussions, share time and formal presentations throughout our endangered animals inquiry.

MATHEMATICS

Number

Students will continue exploring multiplication and division strategies. We will be focusing on the facts from the 2, 3, 5 and 10 families. Students will continue to engage in lessons about multiplying and dividing two-digit numbers (e.g., 25×4 , $100 \div 4$). Students will investigate maths problems that involve money. This will include working out change required from simple financial transactions.

Measurement and Geometry

Students will strengthen their ability to read time accurately to the minute. In the study of shape they will make models of three-dimensional objects and describe their key features. Students will also identify and describe slides and turns of shapes in their everyday environment.

Statistics and Probability

Students will conduct chance experiments using materials such as dice and coins. They will aim to identify and describe possible outcomes, record their data and analyse results.

INQUIRY

The Inquiry unit for term 4 is titled *Endangered!* Throughout this unit students will be researching and exploring endangered species of animals, their habitats and the events that impact their inclusion on endangered lists. Students will also be researching the impact that humans have had on the earth ecosystems and flora.

On Thursday, 19 October, there will be an exciting incursion to prompt our thinking about endangered animals. 'Reptile Encounters' will be visiting to assist students in understanding components of an ecosystem, events that can affect the balance of ecosystems and how living things adapt to new surroundings.

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Physical Education			3Y,3S		3G, 3AJ
Music		3Y, 3G	3AJ		3S
Science Spanish			3S,3G	3Y	3AJ
Art Spanish			3S	3AJ, 3G	3Y
Kitchen Garden	3Y, 3A, 3G			3S	

Physical Education

This term is jam packed with fun skill based activities. The year 3s will be completing units on orienteering, gymnastics, netball and outdoor ball sports. This term year 3 students are invited to an extra-curricular sporting event. We are holding swimming trials for our 2018 Westgarth team on Friday, 24 November at the Northcote pool. This is an optional event for students that can swim 50 metres without stopping.

Music

In term 4 the main focus for year 3 students will be using the iPad app "GarageBand" to create a piece of music based on the 12 bar blues chord progression. Students will also be working on different ways to document their compositions so that they can play them using instruments that we have in the music room. We will continue to focus on some of the musical elements (tempo, dynamics, pitch, structure) and how composers use them to communicate ideas and moods. Listening to music of different genres and discussing their similarities and differences will also form part of the curriculum in term 4.

Spanish/Science

Year 3 students will learn about heat and how it can be produced. They will also explore how heat can be transferred and learn how we can measure it. While doing this, they will observe the different properties that materials have. By doing different hands on activities, they will learn the vocabulary on everyday objects and materials as well sentence structures to explain their properties in Spanish.

Spanish/Visual Arts

In term four we are going to be very busy in the art room finishing up projects and making a collaborative mural for the entrance of the school. Students from all year levels will contribute to the project, which will be completed using clay and mosaic. Students in year 3 are going to learn how to weave using different fibres. Along the way students are going to continue to learn basic Spanish sentences to describe their favourite colours and food, communicating personal information, describing parts of the body and weather conditions.

To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>