



Year 3 Teaching and Learning – Term 1

Welcome

Welcome back to a brand-new schooling year in 2018, we hope you have enjoyed summer as much as we have. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome twin brothers Edward (3J) Isaac (3G) and their family to the Westgarth PS community.



Peter Brown

This year, the Grade 3 teachers are:

- Gaye
- Ruth
- Taryn
- Justyn
- Brenda (3/4 Composite)

The Grade 3s have settled quickly into classroom routines and are enjoying the Quality Beginnings program. This program runs over the first two weeks of term and gives students plenty of opportunities to build meaningful relationships with their new peers and teachers. We are also taking the opportunity to share our favourite picture books and novels with the grades to promote a love and passion for reading.

Important Dates for Term 1

7th February – Parent Information Session at 7.20pm (3 Gaye's Room)

9th February – WPS Welcome Picnic

1st March – School Photos

16th to 28th March – Grade 3 Swimming Program

29th March – Last day of Term 1 (2.30pm Dismissal)



What we are learning in the classroom

English

In Term 1, the English Curriculum will explore **narrative and persuasive text types** and develop an understanding of the **key language and structural features** of each writing genre. Students will read examples of narrative and persuasive texts during **guided and shared reading activities**. They will use **simple planning techniques, such as mind mapping**, to generate and organise their ideas before **writing short creative and opinion pieces**.



The key skills we will be covering include:

Reading	Writing	Speaking and Listening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a range of comprehension strategies • Reading fluently and with expression • Understanding the purpose of a range of text types • Finding the main idea • Discussing the themes and information in reading material and making links to their experiences and prior knowledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a neat and consistent handwriting style • Spelling Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - letter/sound matching - syllabication - knowledge of more complex letter patterns (eg. ea, igh, ou) - building word families - learning and applying spelling rules • Correctly use basic punctuation, including capital letters, full stops, commas, exclamation marks, and apostrophes for contractions • Introduce paragraphing as an organisational feature of writing • Use a consistent tense in written work • Expand student vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively listening to peers and teachers • Clearly contributing ideas during group discussions • Using correct sentence structure and grammar when speaking • Adding to the ideas of classmates during discussions • Using an appropriate tone, pace and volume



Mathematics

This term in mathematics we are continuing to work with students to develop their skills and fluency with number, in particular:

- Identifying odd and even numbers
- Counting skills, backwards and forwards
- Reading, writing, ordering and renaming numbers
- Addition and subtraction facts and strategies



We will also be looking at:

- Reading analogue and digital clocks
- Collecting data and creating graphs



The students will also be developing their problem-solving skills to support them with multiple strategies to tackle open-ended, challenging maths tasks.

Inquiry



The overarching Inquiry unit for this term is “Rights and Responsibilities”. Throughout the term, students will investigate and build understandings through asking some of the following key questions:

- What is citizenship?
- What does it mean to be a citizen?
- What is an Australian citizen?
- Why do we need rules and laws?
- What are our responsibilities as citizens in our school?
- How do our actions as a citizen impact on a community?

In addition, students:

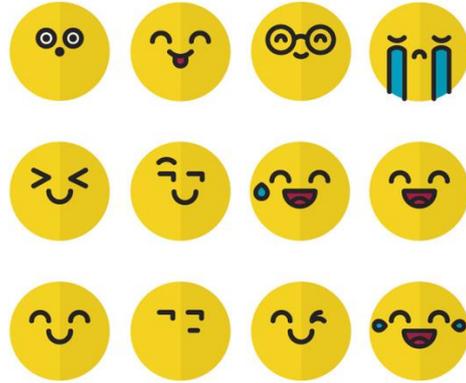
- Explore the term fairness and how it may be context-dependent
- Use reasoning to identify possible consequences for decisions
- Learn how decisions can be made democratically
- Learn the role of local government
- Learn to differentiate between rules and laws
- Learn to describe how people participate in communities as active citizens



Social and Emotional Learning

As part of the school’s commitment to the social and emotional wellbeing of the students, we are implementing a morning and end-of-school routine where students have opportunities to discuss how they are feeling in a safe environment. We are also developing the students’:

- Emotional Literacy,
- Problem Solving skills and
- Stress Management strategies



through the Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships program developed by the Department of Education.

In addition, we focus on equipping the Grade 3s with the necessary strategies to support them to build friendships and connections with older students as they transit onto Clarke Street.

Specialists

	3 Gaye	3 Ruth/Taryn	3 Justyn	3/4 Brenda
Mon	Discovery	Art	-	Music
Tues	P.E.	Discovery	P.E., ICT	P.E.
Wed	Art, ICT	P.E.	Library, Discovery	ICT, Library
Thu	-	Library	-	Discovery, Art
Fri	Library, Music	Music, ICT	Art, Music	Kitchen Garden

Physical Education

This term the Grade 3s will be participating in lots of new games while working on being a good sport. The units of work we will cover are cricket and bat tennis. These sports have an emphasis on ‘striking’ a ball. Students will be learning new skills and consolidating ones already learnt. We will be making a start on our fitness unit at the end of the term, which will continue in term 2. We will be setting PE goals to reach by the end of the year.





Music

This term in music, grade 3 students will be focussing on some of the different elements of music (tempo, dynamics, texture and structure). Students will use tuned and untuned instruments combined with the elements to create a soundscape to accompany a picture storybook. Students will also embark upon learning some basic guitar and ukulele chords as well as playing chords on keyboards and tuned percussion instruments. We will use these skills to play some simple songs as a class ensemble. Singing, listening and responding to music will also be a feature of the music program.

Spanish/Discovery

Students will reinforce the Spanish language by learning about how the Earth rotates on its axis and how this causes regular changes, including day and night. They will examine how the shape and position of a shadow is related to the time of the day and the position of the Sun. By doing this, students will be able to articulate, in Spanish, the days of the week, months and seasons as well as talking about their daily routines.



Spanish/Art



In term one, students in Grade 3 will explore the art concepts of line, colour, shape, texture and composition through an exploration of the fabulous book “The Night Life of Trees” by Shyam, Durgabai and Urveti to create an artwork in beautiful scratch paper. Along the way students will continue to develop their Spanish vocabulary to be able to communicate in the Spanish/Art classroom. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the WPS Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.

