

YEAR 3/4 TERM 4 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Term 4 and to all 3/4 students and families! 😊

Upcoming Events

Dear Parent/s and Guardians:

Welcome to what is set to be another busy yet exciting term at MPS! Below is a list of important events that the 3/4's will be involved in across the term:

Thursday 2nd November:

Pyjama Day: gold coin donation

Music: Count Us In at 12.30 in the hall.

Monday 27th November - Friday 8th December:

Swimming Program at Starfish Swim Centre

Wednesday 13th, Thursday 14th, Friday 15th December:

Year 4 Bike Ed (1.50-3.30)

Friday December 22nd:

Term 4 ends.

Inquiry: 'Waste'

This term, students are learning about the various types of waste we create as humans and identifying waste that can be reused and recycled versus waste that ends up in landfill. We will be looking at the effect of plastic and chemical waste on our environment and discussing our own personal responsibility for ensuring we minimise waste.



The 3/4 Team: Mrs Ali McKenna, Mr Stephen Leeden, Mr Stefan Beal

Weekly Homework

Students are expected to read every night. 'Take home readers' are designed to be at an independent level for your child so they are able to read fluently and with success. Each student also has access to books at their reading level via our online reading program Wushka (<http://wushka.com.au/>). Student's logins and passwords should be in their diaries. It is an expectation that students read for at least 20 minutes every night and to record their reading in their diaries. We ask that parents also sign your child's diary each night after they have read.

Besides the expectation that students are to read every night, they will also be bringing home a Maths sheet containing an investigative problem solving activity and some quick mental maths or number problems that relate to topics we have been covering in class that week. A Literacy sheet or activity will also be set for students to complete each week. Students may also make the choice to use Mathletics at home to supplement the learning happening at school. **Homework comes home each Friday and is due to be returned the following Thursday.**



Writer's Workshop

This term we have begun our Writer's Workshop by exploring traditional narrative texts, such as myths, legends, fairy tales and fables. Students have been immersed in this text type and will be writing their own narrative texts that include a moral message. We have been focussing on the author's purpose and message, character traits, personification, describing a setting, problem and solution, and figurative language.



We have reviewed what it means to edit a text and make sure it looks right, sounds right and makes sense. Students are being taught the correct use of quotation marks, paragraphs, sentence structure and verb tense.

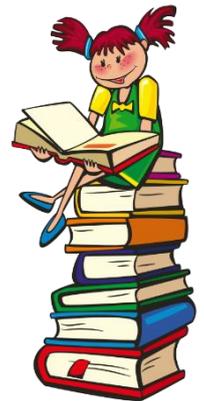
Later in the term we will be exposing students to expositions (persuasive writing, including advertisements). They will be identifying the difference between fact and opinion as they write their own exposition with a clear point of view. Word choice will be a specific focus and students will be encouraged to create lists of positive and negative language when it comes to arguing a position or stance.

Throughout the term students will continue to share their writing with their peers on the Author's Chair and will be taught how to give specific, relevant and constructive feedback. The year will end with some creative writing, reviewing the different ways we may choose to publish a text, and creating writing for a specific purpose and audience.

Reader's Workshop

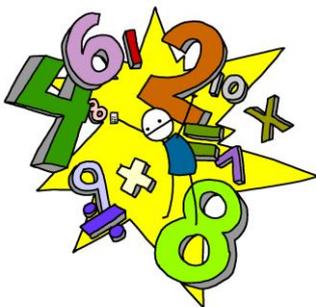
We have started the term by exploring Aesop's Fables and identifying the moral or life lesson that the author is intending to get across. We are discussing how the message in traditional fables translates to modern day and comparing well known proverbs with our own or similar experiences.

Students are revising and consolidating taught reading strategies to enhance their comprehension of texts. These include: making connections, synthesising information, making inferences, cause and effect, drawing conclusions, sequencing, retelling and identifying the main ideas with supporting details.



Later in the term as we study debates, expositions and advertisements, students will be looking at the type of language that is used to persuade and coerce an audience of one particular point of view as well as what constitutes fact as opposed to an opinion.

Maths Workshop



In Number we will have a focus on using formal methods for calculating multiplication and division sums. When using the formal methods for calculating multiplication and division sums we will be using our knowledge of place value to support our working out and looking at the relationship between division and multiplication. We will be working to understand how decimals relate to fractions and how to convert one to the other. The students will also look at completing patterns that require fractions to be added or subtracted. In Measurement we will be learning to convert 12 hour time to 24 hour time, read 24 hour time and write it in digital and analogue time and how to calculate the duration of real life activities. We will also be exploring the relationship between 2D and 3D shapes by constructing 3D shapes from 2D nets and then naming their properties. Students will also be measuring the weight of objects using analogue and digital scales and

practising converting between kilograms, grams and tonnes.

In Statistics and Probability we will be focusing our investigations on calculating the probability of events happening, discussing if outcomes of chance are dependent or independent and naming the chance of an event occurring by using a scale, fraction or language associated with chance.

Students will practise essential number skills daily with fluency games and activities to consolidate their understanding of place value, skip counting and number patterns, Times Tables and mental addition of number facts using knowledge of doubles and near doubles.

Music

This term students in prep will be focusing on learning the song for this year's Music: Count Us In entitled 'Shine Together.' Each year an original song is written with selected students from across Australia and over 2, 100 schools participate in the initiative to sing the song at the same time. MCUI has run for 10 years now and aims to encourage kids to sing and make music together and advocates for meaningful musical experiences within in a child's development and education.

This year the celebration day is Thursday November 2nd and we will congregate as a school to sing the song together at 12:30pm in the hall. Family and friends of the school community are welcome to join us and our amazing school choir will also perform a few songs. The song can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSTKn0E2Q5o> and this year is about individuality and acceptance



Students will be focusing on digital music this term and specifically learning about remixing. They will be selecting loops, parts of melody, rhythm and instrumentation to put their own original spin on a song using Garageband.

Students will have fun learning about 'chair drumming' and to play and distinguish between types of drum patterns. They will participate in musical activities aimed to strengthen their knowledge and ability to read and play individually and as a class ensemble.

Everyone is invited to our end of year school picnic and music celebration which will be held on Wednesday 13th December 4-5:30pm.

Miss Howden

Art

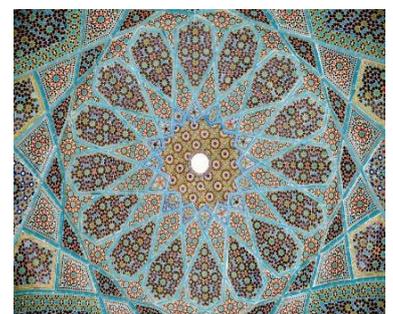


Welcome to term 4. Spring is in the air!

Our grade 3 and 4 students will be studying artworks of different styles and cultures to inspire their own expression of ideas relating to spring and nature. They will also discuss and share their ideas about how important it is to care for nature and what we can do to contribute to the wellbeing of the environment. We will be exploring Claude Monet, Wassily Kandinsky, Mandalas and look at Arabesques which are plant based designs from the Middle East.

The focus will be on colour, pattern and concentric circles. Students will be selecting and experimenting with materials to create their own Mandala designs

Maria Kakavoules





Sport/P.E.

Grade 3 & 4 students will be playing games that involve 'hitting with a bat'. They will be participating in Tee Ball, Rounders and Tennis. This will involve practising the skills of each game, learn the rules/scoring and work in a team to play each game.



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Science



We are lucky to have Wilko back again to teach the students about 'Forces'. The 3/4 students will then begin Robotics. The class will discuss what robots are and do, and discover the 'Sphero' - Moorabbin Primary's robotic ball!!! They will learn how to manoeuvre the robotic ball as it swims, paints and moves around mazes. The classes will begin basic programming with the Sphero.

Bike Ed

The year 4 students will participate in three days of Bike Ed later in the term from Wednesday the 13th to Friday the 15th December. Please take the time now to ensure your child's bicycle is in good working order and that they have a safety standard helmet. Bike checks and helmet checks will be conducted at school later in the term.

Please ensure that helmets meet the NZ/AUS standards and are without cracks or damage. **Helmets save lives.** Please ensure they are correctly placed on your child's head. They should not slip back to expose the forehead. Your assistance in teaching your child basic road safety skills would be much appreciated as it helps to consolidate the learning that will take place during our Bike Ed. sessions.

During this time, the year 3 students will be engaged in 'Theory and Road Safety' lessons aimed to teach basic yet necessary road rules and bike riding skills to keep them safe.

Please monitor and supervise students when riding on footpaths and near driveways and intersections. Back brakes should always be used before front brakes or ultimately used at the same time. Front brakes used suddenly can cause the bicycle to flip over. Bikes are not to be ridden in the school grounds!

