

Year 4 Term Letter, Term 2 2019

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 2. We have had a very busy start to the term with public holidays and cross country.

This term we are going to attempt to use Teams and Onenote to complete our homework digitally. This will begin when I am confident that all students can competently use the technology effectively and appropriately (including me!).

We are also hoping to go on an excursion this term and will be asking for parent volunteers, keep an eye out for an email and a link on the blog to volunteer. We will be restricted by numbers, however there may be options for other parents to come but they will have to pay their own way.

Below is a brief description of what we will be learning in each area for Term Two.

Term 2 Units of Work

Religious Education

This term in Religion we will be exploring the sacraments which is perfect timing to tie in with those who made their First Holy Communion. Father Damien came into the classroom and explained the sacraments of Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation. He talked about the symbols and words that are used in these sacraments and why we do them. At the end of the term students will be able to describe the connections between the life journey of each believer and the sacraments of the Church.

English

In English for Term 2 we will be looking at imaginative texts. Our writing from last term showed that as a whole class we need to focus on cohesion and adding detail to our writing. This will be our goal for this term. We will be planning, drafting and publishing our own imaginative text that will include noun, verb and adverb groups to add detail and linking devices to demonstrate cohesion. We will continue to focus on literal and implied meaning using our class novel Nevermoor. We also continue to look at spelling patterns within words to give us the tools to develop better strategies to spell unfamiliar words accurately.

Mathematics

This term in Mathematics students will be looking at fractions. They will be able to recognise common equivalent fractions in familiar contexts. They will locate fractions on a number line, count by quarters, halves and thirds including mixed numerals. We will also be exploring the connections between fraction and decimal notations up to two decimal places. This is the first time they explore the link between fractions and decimals and also that the number system can be extended beyond zero. This term we will also begin to classify angles in relation to a right angle and compare them as equal to, greater than or less than a right angle.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

In HASS in Term 2 we will be looking at describing and comparing the diverse characteristics of different places. In groups we will investigate the main characteristics of the continents of Africa and South America and the location of their major countries in relation to Australia. We will also be linking into our biological

sciences unit and looking at the importance of environments, including natural vegetation to animals and people. We will be investigating the following inquiry questions:

How does the environment support the lives of people and other living things?

How do different views about the environment influence approaches to sustainability?

How can people use environments more sustainably?

Science

Science for Term 2 has a focus on biology and the study of living things. We will be looking at describing relationships that assist the survival of living things and sequencing the key stages in the life cycles of plants and animals. We will investigate how living things depend on each other and the environment to survive with a particular focus on bees. We will recognize that environmental factors can affect life cycles such as fire and seed germination. This ties in with our HASS unit.

Health Education

In Health Education this term we will be linking in with Media Arts and look at a variety of health messages that are in the media. Students will interpret these health messages and discuss the influence they have on healthy and safe choices. They will access different sources of health information and examine the accuracy of these sources.

Music

In Music this term, students will continue to consolidate their understanding and performance of pentatonic (5 note) patterns and further strengthen their musicianship through engaging in a range of tasks that challenge their rhythmic and melodic development. We will be exploring the work of Beethoven, the orchestra and the elements of music.

Physical Education

This Term in Physical Education the students will learn the following:

- Participating in physical activities which require problem-solving to achieve a goal
- Refining athletics techniques in readiness for the Athletics Carnival
- Introduction to soccer/football skills

Digital Technology

Students will consolidate their understanding that computer programming relies on the programmer giving instructions to the computer that are accurate and clear. They will use a block programming environment to manipulate blocks of code to create a series of shapes, images and actions. Each student will work through training courses to sequentially develop their skill in block coding. They will create patterns and drawings using code. Students will become aware that some of the best learning and greatest discovery come from making 'mistakes' and resolving the issues (debugging). A focus will be on modifying their design when required during the course of a project. Throughout this unit students will be developing algorithms to solve problems and thus be engaging in computational thinking.

LOTE

Year Four will continue working on Unit 2, **“A day in a Japanese School.”**

The year fours will be assessed on their interaction with the teacher and peers in regular classroom routines and structured interactions. They will also be required to comprehend short written texts that use familiar and repetitive language.

Students will:

- answer questions in Japanese
- speak to the teacher and classmates in Japanese
- follow instructions given by your teacher in Japanese

Warm regards,

Leeanne Taylor

Classroom Teacher

Brett Kitchener

Principal