

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to another exciting and busy school year! We hope you all had a wonderful break and enjoyed some well-earned relaxation time with your families. Here is the Term One Newsletter for Grade Four. There are a few reminders, some important dates to remember and our main focuses this term for each learning area. Thanks for reading.

### **GRADE FOUR TEACHERS**

4B – Mrs Brnjac, Room 17

4H – Miss Hunter, Room 18

4JM – Mrs Jones & Mrs Miller, Room 2

4K – Mrs Kingston, Room 19

4S – Mr Schaus, Room 1

The best way to contact us is by phone or in person. Please don't hesitate to call us at any time via the school office if you need anything. Alternatively, if you would like to have a longer discussion, please see your child's teacher to arrange a suitable time ☺

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Thrive Parent Night – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Labour Day Public Holiday– Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Whole School Photos – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Grade 4 Open Afternoon – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April

End of Term – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

### **SEESAW**

This year we will be continuing to use the SeeSaw app. Seesaw is a digital learning journal/ portfolio that allows the children to share with you some of their work & the special moments that they may experience in Grade 4. Codes have been sent home in week 2 and 3. If you have any issues connecting, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

### **TERM ONE LEARNING SNAPSHOT**

#### **ENGLISH**

In English, our writing focuses on Information texts. Students will focus on topic specific vocabulary and will be supported with writing structure, making sure to only include facts in their reports, not opinions. By this point in your child's primary school career, it is expected that each child read daily. This is so valuable as reading builds vocabulary, boosts creativity and ignites a thirst for knowledge. Strong writers are usually good readers! This term we will also begin our Jolly Phonics/ Grammar program. The aim of spelling work in Grade 4 is to consolidate the children's existing knowledge and introduce new spelling patterns. We follow a weekly class spelling focus and as spelling is a visual-memory skill, it is advisable that time is set aside to practice writing and checking the words correctly.

#### **MATHS**

In Maths, we will begin with our Place Value unit followed by the Four Operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Our focus for this term is to develop efficient mental and written strategies for multiplication and division, and to hone in on times tables and quick number facts. There is SO much you can do at home to support your child's learning in this area. It really gives your child an advantage if they have number facts and times tables quickly at hand when solving problems. *Understanding that*

*commutativity (e.g.  $3 \times 6 = 6 \times 3$ ) to an automatic level of proficiency allows the recall of facts from memory without conscious effort (Hasselbring)*

## **INQUIRY**

Our Inquiry unit for this term is a geography unit named - World Geography: Connecting Our Countries. We will look into the location of Australia's neighbouring countries and their diverse characteristics and investigate the representation of Australia as states and territories. We will also celebrate National Harmony Day on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March and Mrs B will be giving a talk to all the students in Grade 4 on Multiculturalism. This term we will finalise our unit, with a Parent Open Afternoon on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, where students will present their research of a chosen country.

## **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

Throughout this term we will be using the computers and iPads to complete Lexia and Mathletics activities, as well as refining our researching skills to gather information for our inquiry project. A major goal of ours is to improve our speed in typing so we will also be using the program, Typing Tournament. It would be beneficial for students to practise doing some digital processing at home.

## **WELLBEING**

To promote student wellbeing our THRIVE focus for this term is Enjoy Positive Emotions, This unit aims to promote positive coping and help your child develop a range of Stress Buster strategies. Don't forget March 20<sup>th</sup> is International Happiness Day, so make sure to mark it in your diary and smile at somebody that day!

We look forward to a beautiful year of learning 😊

Thank you,

The Grade Four Team