



# EARLY YEARS

## U4 NEWSLETTER Term 3

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### Introduction

Welcome back to U4 for term 3! We hope you all enjoyed the term 2 holidays and you're ready for another busy and fun-filled term. This term we will continue to engage in the connected curriculum and explore a new focus with our big question 'why does the universe work?' We are continuing on our journey towards implementing the Walker Learning Approach and it has been fantastic to see how engaged students have become during their investigation time.

### Maths

In Maths this term we will continue to focus on consolidating and extending our counting skills and knowledge of place value. Students will be introduced to Financial Maths with our topic on money, where they will look at the features of Australian currency and order small collections of coins and notes according to their value. They will recognise and describe fractions as halves or quarters and represent division as groupings of equal sets.

In Measurement and Geometry for term 3 we will explore 1D, 2D and 3D shapes and objects along with their properties. Symmetry and tessellations will be explored as we examine different shapes. If time permits we will revise clock work, particularly half past times in analogue and digital forms. This is an area you can help with at home too.

### English

Students will continue to be engaged in a literacy block where reading (shared and guided), writing, phonics, spelling and comprehension is explicitly taught and practised.

Our focus for writing this term will continue to be on writing recounts and narratives as well as students being introduced to the structure and features of procedural text. In spelling, students will continue to develop their knowledge of digraphs and word families. This term students will be bringing home 10 spelling words to practise as of week 2. We will be focusing on 'ou', 'ar', 'ay', 'ea', 'igh', 'ow', 'ew' and 'or' words. Please note there will be no spelling homework or spelling test in week 10 due to Sports Day.

Students will continue to be supported to develop independent reading skills, improve their understanding and comprehension of what they are reading and also to develop their confidence as a reader. To assist with developing comprehension skills and making connections to reading, students will be encouraged to respond to a variety of texts with a particular focus on retelling and implied meaning.

Our focus for grammar this term will be on proof reading and editing skills, in particular punctuation. In addition, students will be engaged in another author study this term, which will be based on Australian author Mem Fox.

## Science

In Science this term we will be focusing on Earth and Space Sciences, in particularly looking at observational changes in the landscape and sky in our unit 'Up, Down and All Around'. Students will have the opportunity to explore natural, man-made and managed features that undergo change overtime. Through outdoor observations and photographic records, students will investigate daily, weekly and seasonal changes in their local environment and explore how this impacts on the way the universe works.

## HASS – Humanities and Social Sciences

In HASS this term students will be focusing on the concept of place. Through a variety of different activities students will identify and describe natural, managed and constructed features of places and locate them on maps. Students will examine how places have changed, as well as looking at ways of caring for the environment.

## Specialist Areas

Performing Arts (With Tiffany McCallum on Tuesday)

PE (with Terry Ahern on Thursdays)

Japanese (with Belinda Brenen on Wednesdays & Fridays)

Positive Education (with Desy Pantelos on Fridays)

## Morning routines

Well done to everyone for settling in efficiently ready to start term 3 and remembering to:

1. Walk in quietly and hang up their bag on their hook.
2. Put their reading/take home pouch on their table.
3. Take down their chair.
4. Put lunch orders in the lunch basket.
5. Hand up any notes or information via the communication book.
6. Students commence community reading.
7. Students sit on floor ready to begin lesson time.

## Library Day / Computers

U4 will continue to visit the library on Wednesday afternoons for a browse and borrow. Just a reminder that when your child has finished reading their borrowed books they can place it in our 'Book Returns' basket in the classroom, so that they may be able to borrow again. This term we will be using the laptops to undertake work in Geography and Maths using Scootle and various websites to explore topics. We will also use ActivInspire to draw lines and shapes and produce matching labels. We will revisit touch typing this term to improve our skills in this area.

## Reminders

As part of our SunSmart Policy students will be required to wear their school hats as of week 8.

Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held in week 2 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August.

There is a Pupil Free Day in week 5 on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Students will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge this term.

Sports Day will be held on the last day of term on Friday the 29th of September. Further information will be sent home closer to the date.

Investigation will continue this term on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We would appreciate any junk material (eg. boxes, paper towel rolls, bottle caps etc) you may have lying around at home that you wish to donate.