22 February 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

STAGE 2 GRADE NEWSLETTER 2016

Welcome back to the school year. The teachers for Stage 2 for this year are:

3H- Mrs E Harris  
3M- Mr C Martin  
3E- Mrs J Evans  
4NR- Mrs G Ross/Mrs D Nicholls  
4C- Mrs M Chaulk  
4B- Mr M Bell

Class Requirements
The following items are needed for your child to fully take part in day to day activities in Stage 2:

- 2 pencil eraser
- 6 HB pencils
- Barrel type pencil sharpener
- Coloured pencils
- Medium point coloured textas- (no permanent markers)
- 1 standard wooden senior 30cm ruler (not metal or “bendy” plastic)
- Calculator (Year 4 only)
- 2 Large glue stick
- Artline pen 200 fine 0.4 black
- Homework Book-covered-A4 size
- Oxford or Macquarie Dictionary and Thesaurus
- Scissors
- 2 boxes of tissues or paper towel
- Liquid soap
- ream of A4 paper
- Small pencil case
- Paint shirt (optional)
- Highlighters
- Whiteboard markers
- USB/Memory Stick

Personal Belongings
It is very important that children keep their personal items clearly labelled with their name and class. Items such as hats, jumpers, raincoats, lunchboxes, drink-bottles, work items, books etc can usually be returned quickly when a name is clearly displayed. Please note, broad-brim hats are to be labelled clearly inside the hat. No writing is to be on the outside of the school hat. It is important that children are encouraged to develop skills to become responsible for themselves and their possessions.
**Book Club**
Book Club is available for the students usually twice a term. It is due the week following distribution and takes about two weeks to be delivered. ALL monies should be sealed in an envelope and dropped off before school through the special slot in the counter of the front Office.

**Library**
The library borrowing day for Year 3 is Monday and for Year 4 is Thursday. Students need to bring a library bag in order to borrow a book as this will protect the book on the way home and ensure our school resources are being kept in good condition.

**Parent Helpers**
This year the Stage 2 classes will be looking for parents to help out in a variety of activities to support their children’s education. This includes reading, small group activities, sport, transportation etc. Please let your child’s teacher know if you are interested in giving up some of your time. All helpers require a current ‘Working With Children’ check (from RMS) and must sign in and out of the office.

**NAPLAN**
Year 3/5 are NAPLAN years. In Week 3, Term 2 the students will be required to undergo nation-wide testing in Numeracy and Literacy. The results of these are compared across the nation and are then sent to you and the school later in the year.

**History Units**
This year your child will be studying a variety of focus areas in History drawn from the different disciplines of this subject such as societal change, government, geography etc. Listed below is a term timetable of units to be studied in Stage 2 in History during 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The First Australia</td>
<td>The Great South Land</td>
<td>The First Fleet</td>
<td>World Explorers</td>
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**Science Units**
Science units of study are listed below. These are drawn from the different strands of Science study such as geology, biology, botany etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plants in Action</td>
<td>Package it Better</td>
<td>Night and Day</td>
<td>Heating Up</td>
</tr>
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**Personal Development/Health/ Physical Education**
Stage 2 will work in a variety of areas of PD/Health/PE this year. In addition to PSSA and School Sport, Stage 2 will work on the following areas in their classes this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term One</th>
<th>Term Two</th>
<th>Term Three</th>
<th>Term four</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dance to be Fit</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Fitness/Game Techniques</td>
<td>Fitness/Game Techniques</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country Training</td>
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Our Release from Face to Face Teachers this year will be Mr Ryan and/or Miss Oudkerkpool teaching Personal Development and Physical Education and Music.
Homework
Each week your child will receive homework activities composing of spelling, maths and table study, work finishing and oral speaking and reading practice. We seek your support in ensuring that this homework is completed and returned to your child’s class teacher upon completion. Please contact your child’s class teacher if your child is consistently coming home with no homework so the situation can be rectified. Homework is a stage expectation and will be monitored and reported on.

Home Readers
Home Reading folders will be issued shortly to children on a weekly basis with accompanying information on how to support your child’s literacy development at home. Folders should be returned to school on a regular basis as per the class teacher’s instructions. Please care for the books by keeping them safely in the plastic sleeve when not being read.

Uniform
Children are to be dressed in full school uniform including a broad-brim hat each day. Children should wear hard wearing school shoes/laced up joggers. Variations to the uniform during the year are not permitted and parents will, of course, be contacted if this occurs.

Awards
Each class has its own practices of earning points that can be traded for an Orange Merit card. Once five of these are collected they are handed in to the class teacher who will trade them for a Blue Merit card. Four merit cards are handed in and traded for a Silver Merit card, which is recorded on the school data system, and they are presented at the next available Assembly, to which parents are invited. Students who earn three Silvers trade these for a Gold Merit card and when two Golds are gained, an Honour Award is achieved. Students achieving this level are rewarded at the Presentation Day Assembly and publication in the school’s newsletter.

Crunch and Sip
On a healthy note, we will continue to participate in a whole school healthy eating program called ‘Crunch and Sip’. At 10 o’clock each morning when energy levels need a boost, students are allowed to eat a piece of fruit and/ or have a drink of water in class.

Medical Information
Please ensure that the school has information on your child’s medical needs including emergency contacts and current phone numbers and please up-date if details change during the year.

Internet Use
Parents are asked to ensure that they supervise their children’s use of the internet during their time in Stage 2. The internet can be used as a tool for research and study but also increasingly issues are occurring at school as a result of the use of social networking sites at home. Close parental supervision of their children’s use of the internet will prevent these from occurring. For further information about keeping your child safe online parents can access the Federal Government website at Cybersmart.gov.au

If you had a question that was not answered please contact your child’s teacher through the office. We look forward to a close relationship that encourages and develops your child’s learning and development.

Emma Harris
ON BEHALF OF THE STAGE 2 TEACHERS

Natalie Mansour
PRINCIPAL