22 February 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

STAGE THREE GRADE NEWSLETTER 2016

Welcome back to the school year. The teachers for Stage Three for this year are-

5H- Mrs L Hughes  5K- Mr R Kirby  5P- Ms J Peters
6W- Mr J White    6C- Mr P Corry  6M- Ms A Monteith

Class Requirements
The following items are needed for your child to take part fully in day to day activities in Year 5 and 6-

- 1 pencil eraser
- 2 HB pencils
- Barrel type pencil sharpener
- Coloured pencils
- Medium point coloured textas- (no permanent markers)
- 2 blue biros, 2 red biros.
- 1 standard wooden senior 30cm ruler (not metal or “bendy” plastic)
- Calculator
- 2 Large glue stick
- Artline pen 200 fine 0.4 black
- Homework Book-covered-A4 size
- Oxford or Macquarie Dictionary and Thesaurus
- Geometry Set
- Safety Scissors
- A4 document folder
- 2 boxes of tissues
- hand towel (cloth)
- ream of A4 paper
- 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 back to school the following week 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.

Parent Helpers
This year the Stage Three 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 Year 5 and 6 in History during 2016.

Year 5 and 6
History
Term 1- Indigenous Australians
Term 2- Becoming a Nation
Term 3- Famous 20th Century Australians
Term 4-The Immigrant Experience

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.
Term One- Desert Survivors
Term Two-Earth's Place in Space
Term Three- Fantastic (Light Shows)
Term Four-What's the matter?

Personal Development/Health/ Physical Education
Stage Three will work in a variety of areas of PD/Health/PE this year. In addition to PSSA and School Sport Stage Three 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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<td>Dance2B Fit</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Fitness/Game Techniques</td>
<td>Year 6-Dancing</td>
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<td>Cross Country Training</td>
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Our Release from Face to Face Teachers this year will be Mr Ryan and 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.

Uniform
Children are to be dressed in full school uniform including 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 Three. 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.

Natalie Mansour

STAGE THREE TEACHERS

PRINCIPAL