3/4 Team
Welcome to Term One 2014!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to 2014. We hope you all had a happy summer holiday and are ready for an exciting year. We would like to introduce our team: Grade 3A Laura Davies, 3B Tania Trifiletti, 4A Leanne Vella (Mon, Tue) Belinda Perera (Wed, Thu, Fri), 4B Sonia Papadopoulos. We would also like to welcome all new students and their families to our school community.

Our theme for the Term is ‘My Community’. In this unit students will explore the local history of Sunshine, and develop an understanding of who we are and where we come from. Students will:

- explore how and why people participate within communities and how students can actively participate and contribute
- how and why people make rules.

As part of this unit students will interact with different community groups and attend an excursion looking at the different historical landmarks in Sunshine.

Children will be expected to complete weekly homework tasks. These tasks will vary in content but will generally contain literacy and numeracy activities and some general studies. Homework will be distributed and explained on a Monday and due in on Friday. Children will also be required to read daily, learn number facts, times tables and revise spelling words each night. Generally, homework should not take more than half an hour a night. We also recommend a pencil case be organised at home for homework in order to promote excellent study habits.

In grade three and four children are now expected to choose ‘Just Right’ books from the library for their home reading. The Grade 3’s will record their daily reading on a reading log. The Grade 4’s will record their daily on their homework sheet. Could parents please sign the reading logs daily.

What we expect the students to learn in Reading:
Students will continue to build reading stamina and develop comprehension through daily independent reading and regular conferencing.

- Students will be accountable for reading goals and provide evidence of goals during conferences
- Use their prior knowledge and connections to make predictions about the text
- Understand structure is organised depending on purpose of text and audience
- Use a variety of strategies to work out the meaning of unknown words

What we expect the students to learn in Writing:
Students will be introduced to a Writer’s Notebook as a place for them to practise writing. They will generate ideas and write entries in their personal notebook.

- Students will build their writing stamina
- Self-select topics for writing and thinking about purpose and audience
- Identify the purpose for writing and use the appropriate text structures and features
- Publish pieces of writing by the end of term one
What we expect the students to learn in Mathematics:
The focus for term one in maths will be on place value and counting, fractions, time, location and chance.
- Students will be able to read, write and interpret numbers beyond 1000
- They will describe and represent equal fractions of objects and collections
- Explore number patterns created by skip counting
- Students will use an analogue and digital clock to tell the time
- Locate items and give directions to locations on a grid map
- Predict and justify the likelihood of a given event

Important Dates:
- **Wednesday 26th of February:** Parent Teacher Interviews
- **Friday 7th of March:** Sunshine Community Excursion
- **Monday 10th of March:** Labour Day Public Holiday
- **Friday 4th of April:** Last day of Term 1 (2.30pm Dismissal)

Please note Term 2 will commence on **Tuesday 22nd of April**

Specialist lessons days:

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<th>Year Level</th>
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<th>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</th>
<th>INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY</th>
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Other information:

**Student Behaviour**
We try to encourage and praise good behaviour at all times. There are times however, when inappropriate behaviour needs to be dealt with for the welfare of other children. All children have received a copy of the ‘Values Statement’. Please read and discuss appropriate behaviour with your child.

**Absences**
If your child is absent from school, a note explaining the absence is required.

**Valuables**
To avoid any problems please do not send valuable toys or other items to school.

**Personal Belongings**
Please label all personal items, especially school jumpers as they are an expensive item to replace if lost.

**House Keeping:**
- Thank-you to parents who have already sent 2 boxes of tissues for the year.
- **Art Smocks** are coming in slowly. Please have them labelled. A large T-shirt is fine.
- A reminder that it is compulsory for all children to wear a school hat in Terms 1 and 4. **No hat, no play!**

Please feel free to speak with your child’s classroom teacher if you have any concerns.
3-4 Team: Belinda Perera, Leanne Vella, Sonia Papadopoulos, Tania Trifiletti & Laura Davies.