

FAIRFIELD HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

WELCOME TO YEAR 4, 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year Four! Our students have settled in well, are developing positive relationships with their teachers and have adapted to class routines with ease.

This newsletter will inform you of this year's curriculum, general organisation procedures and also a list of class requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time throughout the year, we encourage you to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

THE CURRICULUM

ENGLISH

English includes reading, writing and speaking and listening. Reading continues to develop childrens' oral reading with opportunities to consolidate and extend comprehension skills. Learning Support Officers work in every Year Four classroom to support all students' learning needs during guided reading sessions. Writing lessons aim to develop students who are literate in many text types and cover grammar and punctuation. Opportunities to write are provided across the curriculum. Speaking and listening underpins many areas of our daily activities with public speaking offering every child a chance to further develop their oral language skills.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics involves the strands of:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability and
- Working Mathematically

Daily lessons focus on specific areas of these strands.

Concept development and problem solving skills will have a strong focus throughout the year.

HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY

We begin this year with a unit of study entitled *British Colonisation*.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Beneath Our Feet is the first science and technology unit we will be studying this term. Students have already been asked to bring soil and rock samples in a plastic container to support their scientific investigations.

PDHPE/SPORT

Every Friday, students are able to represent their school in PSSA sport or play games and develop skills in Home Sport. Sports uniform, a hat and suitable shoes are required for sport and PE. In class, students will learn about how to care for their own health and well-being.

CREATIVE ARTS

In addition to the classroom activities, students are given opportunities to participate in dance groups and recorder groups.



POSITIVE WORK HABITS

Attendance is important. Students are expected to arrive at school punctually with everything they need for the day, wearing full school uniform, including a school hat. Students develop a positive attitude and a strong sense of pride in their school when they are prepared and organised.

HOMEWORK

Generally, homework will be issued each Monday and collected on Friday. Homework tasks are directly linked to class programs and reinforce key concepts. Your support at home is valuable and should not involve doing the task for the child. If your child experiences difficulty with the homework, your feedback is particularly important and can be communicated with a short note in your child's homework book.



LIBRARY

Every week the students will have the opportunity to borrow books in class time. However, we encourage students to use the library at other times also. Please ensure your child has a clean library bag so he or she can establish regular borrowing habits and a positive attitude to learning. The library opens before school every day when parents are welcome to visit with their children.

INCURSIONS AND EXCURSIONS

Year Four students have the opportunity to participate in special activities offered at school and delivered by other organisations called incursions. Excursions arranged throughout the year will also enrich the students' learning experiences.

HOME READING

Reading at home with your child can make a significant difference to your child's learning. As an integral part of our literacy program, children are required to borrow a reader. At home, your child can share the book with yourself, a sibling or another family member. Signing the home reading record will assist the teachers to track your child's achievements. Please send a plastic folder with your child to protect the reader in transit.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Year Four students have accepted the challenge!!! As part of this program, students are required to independently read texts that have been especially selected to suit their reading abilities. Class teachers and library teachers will assist your child in selecting interesting books to read.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

- 1 homework book
- 2 HB pencils
- 1 ruler (please avoid flexible rulers or ones showing inches rather than cm.)
- 1 set of coloured pencils
- glue stick
- scissors
- eraser
- a highlighter
- plastic home reading folder
- 1 library bag

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Please ensure that:

- Your child has a **healthy** recess, lunch and drink each day.
- **ALL** clothes and property are clearly **labelled** with your child's name and class.



Mrs Craig
Deputy Principal

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding year!

Ms Armstrong, Mr Bijelic, Ms Ou
Ms McMorrine, Ms Polat,
Ms Salanitro
Year Four teachers