

BELVEDERE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



Year 3 Newsletter Term 1 2023

Welcome to the Sanctuary!

Welcome to Term 1 at the Sanctuary! We call the 3/4 building the sanctuary to encourage students to take responsibility and ownership of their learning space as well as develop a sense of community within the 3/4 unit. To help us transform the building into the sanctuary, we are on the lookout for some artificial plants to decorate it with. If you have any that you would be willing to donate, could you please bring them in to one of the 3/4 Teachers. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.



Miss Hodge and Ms. Luxford

Important Dates:

Tuesday 14th– 15th: Parent/Teacher interviews

Wednesday 15th February: Rugby Clinic

Tuesday 21st February: Little Athletics Clinic

Tuesday 7th March: AFL clinic

Tuesday 8th—9th March: Cooking

Tuesday 9th March: Division swimming (selected students)

Monday 13th March: Labour Day

Wednesday 15th—23rd March: NAPLAN

Friday 24th March: House Athletics

Thursday 29th March: District Cross Country (selected students)

Friday 6th April: Last day of Term 1 (2:30 dismissal)

Specialist Timetable:

This year, all specialist classes will run for one hour.

Subject	3L	3H
Art	Thursday 9:00	Thursday 10:00
PE	Tuesday 10:00	Tuesday 9:00
Performing Arts	Wednesday 10:00	Thursday 11:35
Digital Technologies	Tuesday 9:00	Tuesday 10:00

Reminders:

Please complete the insights on Compass, if you are having trouble with this at any time please contact the office or your student's classroom teacher.

Literacy

Reading:

We commenced our CAFE Reading program this week with a focus on building a positive reading community. We will be doing a reading behaviours program looking at all the fundamentals we need the students to understand and practise before we can expect them to be successful readers. We will then work collaboratively with the students to set individual goals through conferencing.

Writing:

We have begun writing sessions this term with Writer's Notebook. A writer's notebook is a tool for helping our students grow into lifelong writers. It is where students capture observations, reactions, ideas, questions, memories, quotes, sketches, lists, or snippets of language. It is a place to experiment, collect, and hold on to thinking. It is unique and personal where students are empowered to make decisions about what goes into the notebook. There are no editing corrections, or scoring rubrics. It is a safe place to experiment, reflect, and grow as a writer. Ultimately, a writer's notebook is a place that holds the inspiration for lengthier writing endeavours in the future.

Later in the term, students will focus on writing narrative and persuasive texts in preparation for NAPLAN this term.

Spelling:

This year we will be beginning with the Jolly Grammar program which follows on from Jolly Phonics. Throughout the year students will complete pages from "Jolly Grammar 3" book each week. Students will be explicitly taught spelling rules, strategies and conventions. Students will practice their spelling words daily and be tested weekly.

Speaking and Listening:

Every day, students will be provided with opportunities to participate in class or small group discussions, to share their work and present their ideas to their peers. We will also be incorporating Circle Time activities throughout the week to develop oral language and provide opportunities for student voice to be heard.

Maths

This term, students will participate in four one-hour Maths group sessions. Students will be tested using Essential Assessments at the beginning of each unit, grouped accordingly and then post-tested to monitor growth. This term's focus is on place value, patterns, chance and using units of measurement.

Additionally students will participate in weekly fluency games to build their automatic response and critical thinking skills. They will also participate in Challenging Tasks several times throughout the term focusing on building their resilience when solving difficult Maths problems.

Inquiry

We will commence inquiry session this year with our Democracy, Laws and Citizens unit where students will be able to explain how and why we make rules. They will develop their understanding about the differences between laws and rules. We will also explore why decisions are made democratically in communities.

Following this, we will move on to our History unit. We will be learning about celebrations and commemorations in Australia and around the world.

Homework

We will commence homework for 2023 by focusing on reading. Each night, students are expected to read for at least 15 minutes, record this in their reading diary and have this signed off by an adult. When students finish their reader, they need to make sure that they change it so they continue to have a levelled book to practice each night.

In consultation with the students, we have decided to change the homework for this year to improve engagement. Homework will still include the 15 minutes nightly reading but will be more project-based to further their critical thinking skills. Further details will be available on Compass in coming weeks.

WELLNESS HOUR, HOUSE POINTS AND BEHAVIOUR

This year we are continuing with the same behaviour and reward system as last year. Students will be utilising a “Good to be Green” behaviour system. As a reward our students will participate in “Wellness Hour”. Wellness Hour is a positive classroom management strategy used as a popular incentive, usually for good behaviour but is also given for effort, learning and academic achievement. It’s something that children look forward to, work towards and aim for so they can do something of their choice or a ‘fun’ enrichment activity for up to an hour. It can improve teamwork, class spirit and make for positive experiences.



A main aspect of our system are the words: **CHOICE, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and CONSEQUENCE!** These are the four words we live by. Each pupil’s behaviour is directly linked to the Friday Wellness Hour. There are clear consequences for not following the rules so when children are confronted with a situation that challenges them, they will learn to think twice and behave with more thought. Each Friday afternoon pupils have a choice of fun activities. Pupils who have been on the behaviour system during the week accumulate consequences starting with the loss of their choice and increasing to the complete loss of their time. We are encouraging pupils to see the connection between their choices throughout the week in the classroom and playground and the ability to participate in weekly rewards.



To assist our students in continuing to make the right choices and for further incentive to always follow the school rules and expectations, students can be awarded a mystery egg from the treasure box. At the end of the day all students in class will “**eggcitedly**” open their eggs in front of the class and then check the prize board to see what they have won. Prizes range from house points to the elusive ‘Golden Egg’, where students win a lunch order! We are so “**eggcited**” to see how many prizes we can give out this term!!

Uniform

It’s great to see many children looking fabulous in the correct school uniform. We are frequently reminding the children about correct articles of clothing and the rules associated with wearing jewelry to school. Please check the Student Dress Code Policy if you have any queries (available on the school website). As it is Term 1, all students are required to wear their broad-brimmed school hats.

