



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152

GRADE 3 NEWSLETTER TERM 1

February, 2018

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, February 21	Hockey Clinic
Wednesday, February 28	SSVWD Swimming Carnival
Thursday, March 8	School Photos
Friday, March 9	House cross-country, Grades 3 to 6
Monday, March 12	Labour Day – (Public Holiday)
Thursday, March 29	Last day of Term 1, 2:30 p.m. finish
Monday, April 16	First Day of Term 2, 8.50 a.m. start

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to all of our students and families, we hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful break. A special welcome to those who are new to Iramoo in 2018. The students have had a positive start to the school year. We look forward to an exciting and productive term.

The Grade 3 teachers for 2018 are: **Ms Ashley Patterson (3AP) – Grade Leader**
Ms Emma Bright (3EB)
Ms Tamara King (3TK)
Mr Thomas Poole (3TP)

In addition to classroom teachers, **Mr Shane Lambert** is the Grade 3 & 4 Learning Improvement Co-ordinator.

At the start of every term your child will bring home a Grade 3 newsletter similar to this one. Please read these newsletters carefully as they contain valuable information.

CURRICULUM

Literacy

Our main focus during **Reading** sessions this term is independent reading. Students will learn about positive reading behaviours and how to choose *'just right'* books. We will also focus on building reading stamina so that students can read for longer periods of time. All students are expected to read both fiction and non-fiction texts. We will concentrate on understanding characters and events in stories but it is important for students to read a variety of books.

Students will focus on two main text types in **Writing**, persuasive texts and narrative texts (stories). Our students will learn about the importance of adjusting their writing when addressing different audiences. We will also work on using correct punctuation and interesting vocabulary in writing. Students will participate in weekly spelling investigations which involve exploring different sound and letter patterns.

To assist your child with literacy at home you can:

- visit your local library with your child and select books to read together
- provide a quiet place for your child to read (television off)
- provide paper and pencils for your child to use at home
- encourage your child to write about family experiences or events
- allow them to make and write birthday cards, letters and thank you notes
- discuss school topics with your child.

Numeracy

This term we will be focussing on many Number & Algebra topics. We have been investigating place value as well as different skip counting and number patterns. Students will be learning about different strategies to use when solving addition, subtraction and multiplication problems, including problems involving money. In addition to these number topics students will be learning about 2D and 3D shape features and shape transformations. They will also investigate different ways of representing data and how to read various times.

To assist your child with mathematics at home you can:

- talk about maths in real life situations with your child
- involve your child in handling small amounts of money, e.g. paying for something and working out how much change should be given
- encourage your child to use skip counting when counting objects at home, e.g. clothes pegs, pencils, blocks, etc.
- ask your child, "What is one thing you did in Maths today?"

Getting Ready In Numeracy – GRIN Intervention Program

This program supports students with developing their maths skills. Selected Grade 3 students will be involved in three GRIN sessions per week to prepare them for maths lessons in their classroom. **Mr Simon Dundas** and **Mrs Dijana Pateras** (Co-ordinator) will be conducting the Grade 3 GRIN sessions. If your child is selected to participate in the GRIN program you will receive additional information from the GRIN teachers.

If you have any questions about the GRIN program please contact Mrs Pateras.

Integrated Studies

Our topic this term is **Community and Remembrance**. The focus for this unit is to learn about significant symbols, emblems, celebrations and commemorations that are remembered by members of our community, our nation and others around the world. They will explore the concept of democracy, through learning about decision making within communities and explain the roles of local government. Students will also describe the different cultural, religious and social groups to which they and others in the community may belong.

Grade 3 students will be learning about:

- The difference between commemoration and celebration.
- What the local government does for the community.
- The difference between rules and laws and why we have them.
- Different cultural and social groups within our community.

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

This term the focus will be on the Top 10 'Not Negotiable' Social Skills. In class the Grade 3 students will be focusing on two of the Top 10 'Not Negotiables' each week. These are the social skills that all of the Iramoo learning community follow and provide a platform for our classes to be calm and provide an appropriate learning environment for your child.

HOMEWORK

The Grade 3 students are expected to read their take home reading book every school day. This needs to be recorded in their green reading diary. Students will be awarded stickers for every 25 days of home reading. We encourage students to choose 'just right' books from our take home reading tubs. If your child has other suitable reading material to read at home that is acceptable too.

As well as daily take home reading, each child in Grade 3 will also have a weekly homework sheet to complete based on what they learnt in class the previous week. One side includes numeracy tasks and the other literacy tasks. Teachers will explain the homework to students every Monday. Homework tasks should be completed and returned to school on Thursday in the homework folder provided.

MATHLETICS & ABC READING EGGS

At Iramoo we use two interactive e-learning resources called **Mathletics** and **ABC Reading Eggs** to compliment our teaching of Mathematics and English. Both programs originated in Australia.

Mathletics and **Reading Eggs** provide opportunities for your child to improve his/her mathematics and reading skills in an engaging and fun way. The primary goal is to improve mathematics results and essential reading skills.

These programs can be used online from home. Each child can use their Mathletics username and password to access both of the programs.

Mathletics can be found at www.mathletics.com.au

ABC Reading Eggs can be found at www.readingeggs.com.au

If you require further information about Mathletics and Reading Eggs please contact your child's teacher.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Please ensure that your child arrives at school by **8.45 a.m. each day** and attends school every day. If your child arrives late to school, they must report to the office so that a *late pass* can be provided to their class teacher. Appointments should be made out of school hours where possible. Please phone the office or write a note to your child's teacher to explain any absence. If your child needs to be picked up early, please go to the **office first** so that an early leave note can be processed before you collect them from their classroom. The *early leaver pass* is to be given to your child's class teacher.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform to school every day. A written explanation is required for students who are out of uniform. No jewellery is allowed to be worn at school except small earrings (sleepers or studs) and watches. If you are unsure about what is and is not acceptable, please refer to our Student Dress Code which is available at our office and on our school website.

SUNSMART

Term 1 is a 'SunSmart' term. This means that your child needs to have a hat at school so that they can wear it at recess and lunch times. The only hats that are acceptable are legionnaires or broad brimmed hats and should be labelled with your child's name.



Students who do not have a hat will go to the library at lunch time. We have been very pleased with our Grade 3 students so far, they have been very responsible with having their hats at school.

KIDS & FRUIT



The Kids & Fruit program has been a very successful program at Iramoo. The eating of fruit is an important part of the day. If there is some particular reason why your child does not participate in the Kids & Fruit program it is essential that he/she has a piece of fruit (or healthy snack such as sultanas, carrots, etc.) from home so that it can be eaten at the same time the other students have their fruit. ***Eating a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables is a very important part of establishing healthy eating patterns throughout life.***

WATER BOTTLES

Students are encouraged to bring a plastic or metal bottle of *plain water* to school, which they can leave on their work tables and drink throughout the day as needed. (No sweet or sticky drinks please).



Thank you for taking the time to read this Grade 3 newsletter. Please discuss its contents with your child and encourage them to take some responsibility for the various actions and requirements needed.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Grade 3 Specialist and Library Timetable

	Computer/ICT	Visual Arts	Physical Education	Performing Arts	Library
3AP	Tuesday	Tuesday	Thursday	Thursday	Friday
3TP	Tuesday	Tuesday	Thursday	Thursday	Friday
3EB	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Friday
3TK	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Friday

Make sure that your child has an art smock for Visual Arts classes and a library bag for Library sessions. All students need to wear appropriate running shoes for Physical Education lessons.

LIBRARY

Grade 3 children have library every second **Friday**, on the even weeks of term. They should return their books each fortnight before their library day (see above). We encourage you to ask your child to read the books they have borrowed and ensure that they have a library bag for their fortnightly borrowing. It is part of the school curriculum that **every child** borrows one book from the library each fortnight and this will be monitored closely.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Grade 3 students will be learning this term in our specialist areas:

Visual Arts

Grade 3 students will be looking beyond the stars in Visual Arts this term, when exploring the topic of **'Earth and Space.'** The Victorian Curriculum stipulates that *through observational, imaginative and sensory investigations, students become more knowledgeable and discerning about their practices as a visual artist.* To enhance these skills, they will begin with a fun and colourful collage alien before moving onto a mixed media space scene. Next, you may be greeted by a quirky extra-terrestrial being at home, after students create for themselves an alien mask. To complete their trip to outer space, students will visualise themselves as a heroic astronaut in a portrait complete with a personalised self-portrait.

Performing Arts

In Grade 3, the *Victorian Curriculum* for Music stipulates that students improvise, arrange, compose, and accurately perform songs and instrumental music to communicate intentions and ideas to audiences. The students will begin the year creating a simple composition using the iPad application **Garage Band**. They will then move on to learn how to play the recorder following musical notation. In Term 1, they will be using the Rock Recorder program, which provides lively backtracks to transform the simplest songs into full sounding performance pieces. They will also use the computer program entitled **Joytunes** to aid their learning and track their progress. We encourage all students to purchase their own recorder and quality recorders are available to purchase from our school office for \$7. Students will also be involved in mime and movement activities in keeping with the *Victorian Curriculum* for Drama - which states that students use body and movement to create dramatic action. Also this year students will again have an opportunity to participate in a school rock group. If you believe that your child shows talent and commitment in the field of singing or playing musical instruments, please encourage and support them to audition. Auditions will be held in the next few weeks.

Physical Education (P.E.)

The Victorian Curriculum stipulates that Grade 3 students *will co-operate with a partner to achieve goals in co-operative game situations which includes an understanding of the concept of fair play.* To achieve this, students will participate in a range of cooperative games that will encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. Then students will be working towards improving their striking, focusing on hitting a moving target and hand eye coordination. Throughout the term, students will be training for our Iramoo Senior Cross Country by developing their running endurance and setting personal goals for long distance running. Our Cross Country will be held on **Friday, March 9** and parents are encouraged to help prepare students by supporting some running training at home. To finish the term, students will be participating in a skipping unit that will incorporate both individual and group skipping skills.

Digital Technologies

Grade 3 students will begin the year using the computer lab to do some very important testing for Mathematics and English. The results from these activities will be very helpful to the classroom teachers in their planning. We will then introduce and revise the basic features of iCal, a digital calendar program that enables the students to add events and make a 'To Do' list. The students will also look at how to manage regularly occurring events and how to set up notifications. We will then use the Budd:e Cybersmart internet program to learn about how to be safe online when using a variety of devices. In accordance with the Victorian Curriculum, Grade 3 students will finish the term using a Numbers spreadsheet to present in a creative way the findings of a simple survey related to favourite sports teams.

Grade 3 Spanish Club

¡Hola a todo! Spanish Club is back on for 2018! Grade 3 students who showed a particular interest in learning Spanish when they were in Grades Prep, 1 and 2 are invited back for 'lunchtime Spanish Club' this year. Students will participate in a variety of fun and interactive activities to build on their Spanish language skills. The topics covered this term will be 'Telling the Time' and ordering **Comida** (food) in Spanish. **¡Adios amigos!**

EMMA BRIGHT, TAMARA KING,
ASHLEY PATTERSON (GRADE LEADER), & THOMAS POOLE
GRADE 3 TEACHERS