

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, February 20,	Hockey Clinic for 4AM & 4AL
Wednesday, February 21	Hockey Clinic for 4CP & 4DE
Thursday, February 22	Hockey Clinic for 4IS
Thursday, March 8	School Photos
Friday, March 9	House Cross-Country
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)
Monday, September 17	Grade 4 Camp (Group 1)
Wednesday, September 19	Grade 4 Camp (Group 2)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to all students and families and a special welcome to families who are new to our school in 2018. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning in Grade 4 and have many fantastic learning activities planned for the term ahead. The Grade 4 teachers are Miss Deanne Elliott (4DE), Mr Andrew Lishman (4AL), Mr Alister Murnane (4AM), Ms Cheryl Pantelidis (4CP- Grade Leader) and Mr Ian Stokes (4IS). In addition to classroom teachers, Mr Shane Lambert is the Grade 3 & 4 Learning Improvement Co-ordinator.

MORNING ROUTINE

Please ensure that children stay in the playground and do not enter the school buildings before the bell rings at the beginning of each day. When teachers allow children into the classroom, students will put their bags away in the assigned area for each class. *When children receive their iPads to take home, they will have permission to come into the classroom before 8.50 a.m. to put their iPads in a secure place.* If you wish to see your child's teacher before school please make an appointment to ensure that the time is available.

HOMEWORK

Each Monday Grade 4 children will take home Mathematics and Spelling/Writing homework. This homework is designed for students to be able to complete independently and return on Thursday each week. Grade 4 students will be given a homework folder, which they will keep their work in. In addition, students will also have daily home reading. It is expected in Grade 4 that students read for at least 20 minutes each night. Please ensure that your child's reading diary is signed and returned to school each day in their book bag. Children will receive achievement stickers when they reach a certain number of days of home reading.

Children will be able to select books for home reading from our class and school library as well as choosing books from home and public libraries. Try to provide your child with a range of reading experiences at home such as reading to a sibling, having a story read to them as well as reading to you and independently.

LITERACY

During Term 1 our focus areas for Literacy will be:

Writing - Personal narratives and Information reports

- Identify purpose and audience
- Identify different text types and genres
- Create an individual Writer's Notebook to record ideas
- Understand the writing process
- Explore various ways to start personal narratives
- Organise and sequence writing using several logically ordered paragraphs
- Use simple and compound sentences
- Research using a variety of sources including books and electronic resources
- Form letters correctly and continue modern cursive handwriting.

Reading

- Select a 'just right' book
- Use prior knowledge and information to make connections and predictions
- Make and justify predictions
- Develop the ability to generate questions while reading
- Use strategies such as re-reading, reading on and breaking up words into smaller chunks
- Continue to build independent reading stamina.

To assist your child with Literacy at home you can:

- ask what your child is reading about and writing about at school
- 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
- encourage them to use 'Reading Eggs' the online Literacy program
- discuss school topics with your child.

NUMERACY

Students will be provided with a Numeracy program to challenge and engage them, where they will be encouraged to think of what their own next steps of learning will be.

During Term 1 our focus for Numeracy will be:

- Reading and writing numbers to at least 10,000
- Ordering whole numbers and simple fractions
- Understanding place value e.g. 100 is equal to 10 tens
- Understanding and using a range of mathematical vocabulary, particularly to describe addition and subtraction
- Automatic recall of basic multiplication facts to include at least 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 10s and related division facts
- Measurement: length and temperature
- Collecting and recording data in picture graphs, column graphs and tables
- Problem solving related to the above topics.

To assist your child with Mathematics at home you can:

- talk about maths in real life situations with your child
- ask your child "What time is it?", using digital and analogue clocks
- encourage your child to use 'Mathletics' the online Maths program
- 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 practise the multiplication facts
- ask your child, "What is one thing you learnt in Maths today?"

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Students will begin Term 1 by focusing on a series of **eSmart (cyber safety)** lessons and activities. They will explore the appropriate ways in which ICT should be used and discuss what to do if someone is not being cyber smart (and the consequences that will follow).

Our Integrated Studies topic for Term 1 is **'Australia's Neighbours - We are similar but different.'** Students will gain a deeper understanding of the countries that neighbour Australia. They will learn how these places are similar to Australia, however they do have differences. These countries depend on their environment to survive and need to find ways to keep their environment sustainable.

During Term 1, students will also complete learning on aspects of being *Sun Smart* and reinforcing their understanding of the Iramoo Top 10 'Not-Negotiable' Social Skills.

USING PEN

This year Grade 4 students will begin the year by using pen for their writing instead of greylead pencil. Red and blue pens will be provided by classroom teachers.

GRADE 4 TIMETABLE

Below is a timetable of the days of Grade 4 specialist and library classes:

Class	Visual Arts	Computer / (I.C.T.)	Performing Arts	Physical Education (P.E.)	Library	Spanish (first semester only)
4AM	Friday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday
4AL	Friday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday
4IS	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Wednesday	Thursday
4DE	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday	Monday	Thursday	Thursday
4CP	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Wednesday	Thursday

Please remind your child to have the correct equipment for these classes such as library books ready to return **the day before** their library day and an art smock provided for art. Children are also required to have a suitable bag to bring library books to and from school.

GRADE 4 CAMP

Our Grade 4 camp will take place for the first group of children from Monday, September 17 - Wednesday, September 19 and then Wednesday, September 19 – Friday, September 21 for the second group of children. The reason why there are two groups is due to the large number of students in Grade 4 again this year. It is a residential camp at the Victorian Blue Light Camp in Maldon with a focus on Bike Education. We would like as many children as possible to attend. The cost of this trip will be approximately \$215 and will require the children to have some wet weather clothing and a bike helmet. More information will be provided as we get closer to the date. Please note that only children with acceptable / safe behaviour are invited to attend school camps at

BIKE EDUCATION

During Term 3, Grade 4 students will participate in our Bike Education program. This program will include theory-based lessons on bike and road safety, together with a practical component where students will practise their skills riding a standard 2-wheeled bicycle. To ensure that all students are prepared for both Bike Education and Grade 4 camp, please encourage your child to practise riding their bikes as often as possible.

IPADS

We will soon be starting the 1:1 iPad Program for students in Grade 4. Information sessions were held last year where payment options, setting up iCloud accounts and other general information was discussed. If you are new to our school or require more information about the program, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Peter Mills (ICT Co-ordinator). Additional information will be provided this term.



BEHAVIOUR AND EXPECTATIONS

Almost all Grade 4 students have started the new school year extremely well and we expect this to continue. During this term we will look more closely in class at our Iramoo 'Top 10 Not Negotiable Social Skills'. These are the social skills that all of the Iramoo learning community follow and provide a platform for our classes to be calm and appropriate learning environments for your child.

Getting Ready In Numeracy (GRIN) – Grade 4 Numeracy Intervention Program

Selected Grade 4 students will receive extra support to increase their confidence and skills in Numeracy this term. The support program is called **Getting Ready In Numeracy**. The students know the program as GRIN. Parents of these children will receive letters informing them of their participation.

This program helps children in their maths learning in the classroom. Initially, they will be involved in two additional sessions per week to prepare them for the maths lessons in their classroom. The results from GRIN programs in schools, including our school, have shown that students improved their learning in maths lessons and achieved higher levels of skills and confidence.

Maths Learning Tips for Parents

- Talk with your child about maths in real life situations.
- Involve your child in cooking when making something simple, especially measuring using millilitres (ml) and grams (g).
- Involve your child in handling small amounts of money, e.g. paying for something and working out how much change should be received.
- Talk with your child about the distance you travel, e.g. home to school and home to the Werribee Plaza

Maths Learning Tips for Children

- Think positively, you *can* work it out.
- Practise the simple things you already do until you can do them easily. This helps when you are learning something new.
- Talk with your family about something you did today in Maths.

Mrs Lorelle Chapman will be teaching the Grade 4 GRIN program this year. Should you have any queries please contact Mrs Chapman or me at school on ☎ 9741 2803.

Mrs Dijana Pateras, GRIN Co-ordinator.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

To continue to provide a positive and organised learning environment, please ensure that your child is at school before 8.45 each morning as classes begin promptly at 8.50 a.m. We encourage students to walk or ride their bikes to school when possible in order to promote health and sustainability. Children who are late to school are required to obtain a late pass from the office. If your child is absent from school, a signed note is required when they return to school to explain their absence. Your vigilance in ensuring that your child attends school every day is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is important that your child wears the correct uniform to school every day. If your child is not wearing correct school uniform on a particular day, please inform their teacher with a written explanation. 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. Please label your child's uniform items with his/her name.

SUNSMART



During Term 1 and Term 4 every child is required to wear a hat when outside. The hat must be a broad brimmed or legionnaire's hat that will provide shade for the face, neck and ears. Children will require a hat every day during this term for all play times and Physical Education sessions. Please ensure that your child's name is written clearly inside his/her hat. Children who do not have a hat at school have to stay under covered areas during play times, remain indoors at lunchtime and will not be allowed to participate in any outdoor activities. Our Term 1 and Term 4 policy is **NO HAT, NO PLAY**. Our SunSmart policy is available to view on our school website at www.iramoops.vic.gov.au Hard copies are available on request. Hats can be purchased from our uniform shop.

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 worktables and drink throughout the day as needed. (No sweet or sticky drinks please).



MATHLETICS & ABC READING EGGS

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.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Grade 4 students will be learning about this term in our specialist areas.

Visual Arts

Artists and historical Art movements will inspire artworks created by Grade 4 students in Term 1. *According to the Victorian Curriculum, students explore how and why artists, craftspeople and designers realise their ideas through different art forms.* They will begin with a textural artwork that employs one point perspective, inspired by Edvard Munch's 'The Scream.' Students will also explore shapes and collage through an artwork influenced by famous artist Henri Matisse as well as colour, shape and texture via Wassily Kandinsky's abstract creations.

Performing Arts

In Term 1, students will begin a study on Silent Movies. The work of mime artists Charlie Chaplin and Mr. Bean will be explored. Students will participate in various mime activities, including presenting a song as a melodrama and a performance piece that combines the use of masks, movement and music. All of this will lead to a group production of a silent movie skit involving a funny character in the school setting. This is in accordance with the *Victorian Curriculum* for Drama that states that through role-play, character development, movement and mime activities students learn about focus, tension, space and time in their own and others' drama. 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.)

To begin Term 1, Grade 4 students will participate in a range of co-operative games which encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. The *Victorian Curriculum* states that *students participate in physical activities, which require problem solving to achieve a goal.* The games will allow students to work in groups and take on different responsibilities within the group. Students will then be developing their striking, focusing on hitting a moving target and hand eye coordination. They will also learn the skills and rules of bat tennis and have the opportunity to participate in a bat tennis tournament. 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 the use of skipping tutorials on the iPads to assist in learning a range of skills.

****Spectators are welcome to take photographs at our school events but must of course be respectful of their use on social or other media, not posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent.**

Digital Technologies

Grade 4 students will start 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 use some Digital Technologies lesson time to work with students on the use and care of their new iPads, including creating and maintaining passcodes and navigating apps and settings. The students will revise and further explore concepts about how to be safe online using the Budd:e Cybersmart internet program. We will finish the term by revising the basic function of iCal digital calendar program and introducing some of the program's more advanced features in accordance with the *Victorian Curriculum*. Time permitting, the students will generate an informative graph based on class survey data about a topic of their choice using the Numbers spreadsheet program.



Spanish Language

¡Hola! The Grade 4 students will be given a 'Taste of Spanish' this term. Students will have an opportunity to be a part of the Spanish program, for the first half of the year, as I will be off to have 'un bebe' (a baby) in July. The program will give students a chance to develop an interest in the Spanish language and learn about the differences between the cultures. We will cover topics such as the Spanish alphabet, simple greetings, expressions and exchanges, and use what we have learned to presents a 'Meet and Greet' role-play in Spanish with their peers. We are looking forward to a great term. *¡Hasta luego!*

Thank you for taking the time to read through this newsletter. Please discuss the content with your child and encourage him/her to take some responsibility for the various actions and requirements needed.

**MS DEANNE ELLIOTT, MR ANDREW LISHMAN,
MR ALISTER MURNANE, MS CHERYL PANTELIDIS (GRADE LEADER) & MR IAN STOKES
GRADE 4 TEACHERS**

**HOW TO HAVE FUN AND STAY SAFE ONLINE
GRADE 4, 5 & 6 STUDENT WORKSHOPS
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018**

Grade 4, 5 & 6 students are very fortunate to have Susan Mclean, an expert in the area of cybersafety coming to our school to discuss how to be respectful and responsible digital citizens and how to stay safe online. Students will participate in a 90 minute, age appropriate workshop and complete a comprehensive workbook with key learnings to bring home to share with parent/guardians.

Susan will explore and discuss the following topics during the student workshop:

- Online rules and laws: where to find them, why they are important and what happens if they are broken. Students will be challenged to think clearly about their online activity and decisions.
- Cyberbullying: what it is and what to do if we see it happening, or if it is happening to us.
- Online friends who are not really friends: how strangers find us online and what they might ask us to do.
- Sites and apps that students are using: the age requirements for each site and why it is important that rules are NOT broken or disobeyed.
- Staying safe online.
- What being respectful and responsible digital citizens really means.
- Time for discussion and student questions.

GROWING UP ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION

FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS & CARERS OF IRAMOO STUDENTS
**TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018 – EVENING SESSION AT IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL,
6.30 P.M.**

Susan will also be presenting a very important and informative session for parents/guardians that will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as things we need to be aware of regarding children and their use of technology including:

- What children are doing online: popular social networking sites and apps such as KiK, Musical.ly, Instagram and Yellow. What they are, what the legal ages to use them are and why the rules should be obeyed.
- The difference between an 'online friend' and a 'stranger'.
- Online grooming: what it is and when/how does it occur. What are the warning signs and what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child.
- Cyberbullying: what it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent it and what to do if it occurs. Also the legal consequences and the possible criminal charges.
- The real consequences of taking and sending of explicit images.
- Potential dangers and safety tips: how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online via parental controls and restriction passcodes.
- Problematic Internet use and gaming issues.
- The Office of the e-Safety Commissioner: the roles, resources and how to make a report.
- How to set rules and boundaries around Internet use in the home.
- The session will conclude with time for questions.

Parents/guardians will receive further details about this session later in the term. The significant cost of the workshops and the parent information session will be covered by the school and provided at **no cost** to parent/guardians.

***NOTE** – this session is for Iramoo parent/guardians only. No child will be permitted to attend, as some of the information covered is explicit.

KARYN HENWOOD
STUDENT WELLBEING CO-ORDINATOR