



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152

YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

TERM 1

February 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, March 5	School Photos
Thursday, March 7	Year 3 - 6 Cross-Country
Monday, March 11	Labour Day (public holiday)
Friday, April 5	Last day of Term 1 (2.30 p.m. finish)
Tuesday, April 23	First day of Term 2 (8.50 a.m. start)
Monday, September 16	Year 4 Camp (Group 1)
Wednesday, September 18	Year 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 2019. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning in Year 4 and have many fantastic learning activities planned for the term ahead. The Year 4 teachers are Ms Emma Bright (4EB), Ms Nellie Driscoll (4ND), Mr Andrew Lishman (4AL) and Ms Liesel McGregor (4LM and Team Leader). In addition to classroom teachers, Mr Shane Lambert is the Year 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 our Year 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. Year 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 Year 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

The main **Reading** focus for this term is choosing 'Just Right' books and understanding non-fiction texts. Students will be taught strategies to help them choose books that they are able to read and understand. Students will read many different non-fiction texts and learn about the structure of information reports. Our **Writing** focus for this term will be personal narratives and information reports. When we focus on the personal narratives, students will write about personal experiences and focus on 'zooming in' on an event or detail. Our students will write their own information report including appropriate features.

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
- 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' our online Literacy program.

NUMERACY

During Term 1, Year 4 children will be studying the following mathematics topics:

- 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: time 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 'Matific' our new 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?"

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

Selected Year 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.

The 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 (mls) 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 Presidents Park.

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 Vanessa Aquilina and Mrs Alicia McPherson will be teaching the Year 4 GRIN program this year. Should you have any queries please contact Mrs Aquilina, Mrs McPherson or me at school on ☎ 9741 2803.

MRS DIJANA PATERAS, GRIN CO-ORDINATOR

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, it's Neighbours and the Southern Hemisphere**' 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 our Year 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.

YEAR 4 TIMETABLE

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

Class	Visual Arts	Computer / (I.C.T.)	Performing Arts	Physical Education (P.E.)	Library
4AL	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Tuesday
4EB	Monday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday
4ND	Monday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday
4LM	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Tuesday

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.

STEMBIRDS – CODING PROGRAM

During Term 1 and 2, the Year 4 students will be participating in a free program called STEM* Birds. This program introduces the students to coding languages like Scratch and KODU. Coding allows students to be creative. They will create small projects during the program. Grades 4AL & 4LM will be participating in weekly workshops during Term 1 and 4EB & 4ND will begin their program in Term 2.



*Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

YEAR 4 CAMP



Our Year 4 camp will take place for the first group of children from **Monday, September 16 - Wednesday, September 18** and then **Wednesday, September 18 – Friday, September 20** for the second group of children. The reason there are two groups is due to the large number of students in Year 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 our school camps.*

BIKE EDUCATION

During Term 3, Year 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 Year 4 camp, please encourage your child to practise riding their bikes as often as possible.

iPADS

We will soon be starting our 1:1 iPad Program for students in Year 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 Mrs Lisa Tovey (iPad Co-ordinator). Additional information will be provided this term.



BEHAVIOUR AND EXPECTATIONS

Almost all Year 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.

Leave the car at home. Try walking or cycling with your child to and from school. It's better for their health and the environment, and will reduce the traffic around our school.



SPECIALIST CLASSES

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

Visual Arts

Students in Year 4 will be creating art inspired by **Australia** this term. To begin with, they will explore the significance of Uluru to Australia's Indigenous community, before creating a beautiful mixed media landscape with oil pastels and ink. Next, Year 4 students will depict the iconic Sydney Opera House in a collage/painting as well as contribute to the art room's 'Great Barrier Tree' with a sea-life sculpture. If time permits, the students will also design an abstract drawing inspired by Melbourne's own Federation Square. The skill focus will be on *drawing, painting and construction* as stipulated in the Victorian Curriculum for Visual Arts.

Performing Arts

In Term 1, the Year 4 students will explore *narrative structure when improvising and performing devised and scripted drama* as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum. They will *use performance skills to communicate ideas and create a sense of time and place in their drama*. This will be achieved by exploring the film genre of Silent Movies and the work of mime artists such as Charlie Chaplin and Mr. Bean. 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.

This year students will 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.)

Year 4 students will begin the year by participating in a range of cooperative games that encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. The Victorian Curriculum states *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 co-ordination. 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, they will be developing their running endurance and setting personal goals for long distance running. Our Cross Country will be held on **Thursday, March 7** and parents are encouraged to help prepare students by supporting training at home. To finish the term, the students will be participating in a basketball unit to develop their passing, catching, dribbling and shooting skills while promoting their ability to work effectively in a team.

****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 taking or posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent/guardian.**

Digital Technologies

Year 4 students will start the year by revising the basic functions of a digital calendar program and learning about some of the program's more advanced features in accordance with the Victorian Curriculum. Some Digital Technologies lesson time will also be devoted to working with the 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 specifically designed for primary school students. Time permitting, the students will generate an informative graph based on class survey data about favourite school computer games using the Numbers spreadsheet program. They will present and edit their data in a creative poster format.



Grade 4 Spanish Club

¡Hola y bienvenidos al Término 1! I hope all families had an enjoyable break and the students in the Spanish Club are ready and eager to continue having lots of fun learning some more **Español**. During Term 1, the Spanish Club will be held on a weekly basis in the Computer Lab each Tuesday lunchtime. Our key focus for this term will be having simple conversations in **Español**. The students will have plenty of opportunities to learn and practise the relevant vocabulary by engaging in role-plays, creating scripts, playing games, singing songs and using various online computer programs such as 'Rockalingua'. **¡Hasta luego amigos! Señora Aquilina ☺**

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 EMMA BRIGHT, MS NELLIE DRISCOLL,
MR ANDREW LISHMAN & MS LIESEL MCGREGOR (TEAM LEADER)
YEAR 4 TEACHERS**