



TERM 1 NEWSLETTER 2023

CLASS	YEAR 4/5
TEACHER	Teagan Mann
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CLASS TIMETABLE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Physical Education	Japanese	Visual Arts		Sport
	STEM	Library		

LEARNING FOCUS THIS TERM

ENGLISH Reading Writing Spelling	<p>The reading program will focus on developing skills in comprehension and the appreciation of literature and research of a range of different genres. In Reading, students work together daily, in small groups, developing their comprehension skills and understanding of text, developing word attack skills and practising reading with fluency. Whilst reading, students are developing their ability to make valid predictions, make deep connections with the text, analyse the information they are reading, visualise scenes, understand characters and summarise the important information in a text.</p> <p>During Term 1, our genre focusses are narratives, persuasive writing, recounts and information reports. Through a variety of teaching and learning activities, children will develop their ability to write in the style of these genres. The VCOP program (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) will continue to enhance our writing skills. During writing sessions, students are given the opportunity to brainstorm ideas verbally and then implement these ideas in writing. This is followed by sessions where they edit and up-level their writing, adding in extra details and identifying their own mistakes.</p> <p>We are continuing the Sound Waves program for spelling. The Sound Waves approach focuses first on the basic units of sound in our language - phonemes. It then explores the letters that represent these sounds and how they can be put together to form the words in our language.</p>
MATHS	<p>The maths program will focus on developing a strong understanding of place value up to five digits, counting and the development of mathematical strategies. Maths activities such as length, and collecting and representing data, will be explored. Students will begin to learn and build on the speed and accuracy maths knowledge through the use of the 'top ten' game using sample NAPLAN questions.</p>
INTEGRATED STUDIES	<p>We are exploring two topics this term. "My Identity" incorporates the Start Up Program, understanding new classroom routines, exploring our school values and developing resilience. Students will be introduced to the key concepts of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy and the benefits of regularly practising these during The Resilience Project (TRP) sessions. Our second topic this term "Our Place in Space" will begin in Week 3. Students will investigate the following concepts in this unit of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How the earth's rotation on its axis causes regular changes including day and night and seasons.



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- How earth is part of a system of planets orbiting around a star (the sun).
- How earth is a small part of the solar system which includes galaxies, moons, asteroids, comets, black holes etc.

As a part of the unit, they will create models to describe the key features of our Solar System. In addition, students will study natural events that cause rapid changes to the Earth's surface.

Our Space Dome Incursion has been organised for Thursday 9th March. The cost of this incursion has been sent to you via Compass.

NAPLAN:

NAPLAN occurs much earlier this year. The testing period begins on **Wednesday 15th March** and **concludes on Monday 27th March**. Further information will be sent home closer to the date.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

This year homework tasks will be set on **Google Classroom** commencing Week 4. Homework will be set on a Monday and due Friday. Passwords will be provided in a homework book and the children will know how to access Google Classroom before homework begins. Incomplete work may be sent home to be completed and returned.

READING HOMEWORK	Students are expected to read for at least 20 minutes daily. They may choose to borrow books regularly from the library or simply enjoy reading books they have at home.
MATHS HOMEWORK	Students will be expected to consolidate the skills they learn in class and practice number fluency and multiplication tables. This will include completing set tasks on Mathletics.
WRITING HOMEWORK	Tasks will be set in relation to developing the knowledge needed to write accurately. These tasks might include grammar or spelling skills, or if needed handwriting practise.

CLASS ROUTINE

Students that have mobile phones **must** hand them into their classroom teacher at the start of the day.

REMEMBER TO BRING

	Tissues to share with everyone in the classroom. I open a box at a time for everyone to use.
	Art smock
	Drink bottle
	Library bag



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HAVE YOU RETURNED THESE START OF YEAR NOTICES?

	Notices of Approval- These notices are really important. Please sign them giving permission and return to school.
	SPS Student Acceptable Use of ICT- Students are not given permission to access ICT at school unless they have agreed to use ICT safely and respectfully.
	SPS Photography, Filming and Recording Students (if applicable)
	Updated family contact details if applicable e.g. phone number- If your phone numbers or addresses have changed, please contact the office to update your details.
	Updated medical information e.g. asthma plan

We are off to a great start! The children have all settled in to our classroom admirably and we are all looking forward to a great year ahead together.

Ongoing **COMMUNICATION** is really important. It is best to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk via email, phone or written note. Please contact me as soon as possible with any concerns you may have.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

Wednesday 8th February	Sherbourne Swimming Carnival at Diamond Creek Pool
Thursday 9th February	Lacrosse Phys.Ed Clinic
Friday 10th February	Brainstorm Production Incursion
Monday 20th February	District Swimming Carnival
Thursday 9 th March	Space Dome Incursion
Monday 13 th March	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Wednesday 15 th March	Open STEM Family Night
Wednesday 29 th March	Student led progress meetings - students do not attend school this day, except for their progress meeting.
Thursday 6 th April	End of Term 1
Friday 7 th April	Good Friday
Monday 24 th April	Term 2 begins/Teacher Professional Development/Student Free Day
Tuesday 25 th April	ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Wednesday 26 th April	Students begin Term 2