

Year 3/4 Newsletter,

Term 1, 2020

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Welcome to Term 1, 2020! We hope students had a restful break and are ready for all the great learning experiences set for the term. We have many exciting educational activities planned and are looking forward to an amazing term of learning!

The Findon Values

We continue to focus on the 5 core values that Findon Primary School has established as critical to a safe, happy and strong learning environment. 'Student of the Week' certificates will be awarded to one student from each class, every week for showing the school values of Care and Compassion, Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Doing Your Best. Students displaying the values in class will be recognised by their teachers and may be rewarded for their great efforts and stand out behaviours.



English



Writing

Throughout this term students will focus on specific elements of the writing process and build their ability to make their writing more interesting. Genres we will be working on include: *Narratives*, *Snapshot writing* and *Persuasive texts*. Students will develop their creative ideas by building their vocabulary through using descriptive and effective words, careful selection of words, developing interesting characters and describing settings with improved visual language.

Reading

Students will engage in an independent reading program to build reading stamina. During reading sessions, students will focus on developing comprehension skills to deeper understand texts. Students also engage in Guided Reading sessions as well as one to one conferencing sessions with their teachers. Students will be applying their learned skills and continuing to build on their understanding of texts through these experiences.

Mathematics

During this term there will be a strong focus on number skills, including place value beyond 1000 and using effective mental strategies to solve

addition problems. There will also be a focus on measurement concepts such as reading and understanding time and classifying angles based on the degrees of turn.

All students should have been given their Mathletics log on details and Mathletics should be used at home to practise the skills being covered in the classroom. Remember students can earn a certificate on Mathletics by earning 1000 points in a week. A great goal for students to set!

Inquiry

Our inquiry focus this term 'Spinning Earth' is focused on the Solar System.

Students will be learning about the Sun, Earth and Moon and will have the opportunity to take part in class rotations to immerse themselves in these key components of the unit. There will also be a focus on the seasons, climate and weather.



Respectful Relationships



This term, students will build on their emotional literacy by developing an understanding of the influences that people, situations and events have on their emotions and develop on their ability to interact positively with others in different situations. Students will identify, use and celebrate their personal strengths and identify skills and strengths they wish to develop.

Homework

Students have been given a homework grid to complete over the term. Each week students will complete a Maths task and either a literacy/reading task or a research task connected to our Inquiry unit. These tasks are expected to take, on average, about 15 to 30 minutes each. They are designed to allow success and we encourage parental involvement in these tasks. Home Reading is also a daily expectation, with students expected to read for about 20 minutes most nights.

Student Wellbeing



Absences – 'Everyday Counts!'

A reminder to send a note to school or let the office know, when your child is away for any reason! If the absence is known about before the day, please inform the classroom teacher. While it

is important that any child who is sick remains at home, we encourage families to keep track of absences. Parents of any student/s with an unexplained absence will be notified on the day of absence. We encourage all students to be at school by 8.45am ready to begin their morning process which each class has organised. This allows students to be on time and ready to start the school day at 9:00am.

Health and Nutrition



Students are expected to follow Findon's 'Healthy Eating' policy - half a sandwich and a piece of fruit at recess, the rest of the sandwich and healthy snacks at lunch; with water encouraged throughout the day. Please ensure your child has a healthy breakfast to enable them to concentrate at school without being hungry. Friday continues to be 'Rubbish Free Friday', so please try to send lunch boxes without any packaging.

Canteen

The canteen is open for lunch orders and over the counter sales each day of the school week. When ordering, please be mindful of 'green' foods, representing those foods that can be eaten often, and 'amber' foods, representing those foods that should be eaten occasionally.

Hats and Sunnies

In Term 1 students are required to wear hats and sunnies when they are outside. Make sure they are clearly labelled so they don't get lost!

Netbooks

3/4 students on the 1:1 Netbook Program need to remember to charge their netbooks at home each night. It is important to regularly run the antivirus software that has been installed on the netbooks. If students experience any problems, they can report the problem to their teacher who will refer them on to Michael if required.

Please ensure your child has working headphones as they are essential for technology use in the classroom.



TISSUES

We would greatly appreciate it, if each family could donate a box of tissues for classroom use by the students.

Kitchen Garden Program

The Kitchen Garden program provides fantastic learning opportunities for all of the students in Years 3 and 4. Kath Jones brings an enormous amount of environmental science expertise to the position and we really value her commitment to the program. Michelle Giosis will be taking over the Kitchen Garden program when Kath goes on maternity leave. If you can volunteer for one of the Kitchen Garden sessions, we would all really appreciate it.

Kitchen Garden Time Table Term 1

| Home Group | When |
|------------|--------------------|
| DF | Tues: 9 – 11 |
| II | Tues: 11.30 – 1.30 |
| OC | Wed: 9-11 |
| LP | Thur: 9 – 11 |
| EH | Thur: 11.30 – 1.30 |

Term 1 Dates to Remember

| Event: | Date: |
|------------------------------|---|
| House Cross Country Carnival | 9:15am, Tuesday 18 th February |
| Meet and Greet | Wednesday 26 th February |
| Labour Day – Public Holiday | Monday 9 th March |
| House Athletics Carnival | 9:30am, Thursday 26 th March |
| End of Term 1 | 1:30pm, Friday 27 th March |
| Start of Term 2 | Tuesday 14 th April |

Kind Regards,

Learning Team 3

(Daniel Fromm, Mel O'Reilly, Molly Cook, Elizabeth Higham, Louise Preece and Isabelle Iliopoulos)

