# Year 3/4 Newsletter: Term 4 No 1

Challenge students to be risk takers who become independent, collaborative learners



#### Literacy

Students are studying the author, Colin Thompson. His picture story books include wonderfully detailed illustrations and contain messages and themes that are fantastic for middle primary students to explore. Students will study one of his picture story books each week, for the first half of this term. They will analyse and critique aspects of Thompson's craft and use this as inspiration for their own writing. As part of this author study, students will produce a range of different text types, which they have learned about his year.

In Literacy, we now have a 'Word of the Week' that all Year 3/4 students learn. You can support your child to expand their vocabulary by asking them on a Monday evening what the new word is that they learned about!

### Maths

Students are working to build and strengthen their understanding of fractions through rich learning tasks that aim to help them learn how to name, make, model, and represent fractions. Some students will also be investigating the relationship between fractions and equivalent fractions and making connections between fractions and decimals.

Moving forward, students will be revisiting operations and how they can develop their understanding of operations, particularly multiplication and division. The focus will be to engage in learning tasks that will support their recall of multiplication facts and related division facts. Students will be working on developing efficient mental and written strategies to solve multiplication and division problems.

Please support Year 3 students to learn their 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10 multiplication facts and Year 4 students to learn all facts to 10 x 10.



Doanh using a chatterbox to practise fractions and decimals



Some of the gratitude jars

#### **Social and Emotional Learning**

Students are exploring gratitude and kindness. In learning groups they will be making gratitude jars and kindness bags where students can fill it with things that they are grateful for or they can 'spread kindness like confetti'. Students will have the chance to decorate their jars and their kindness bags to make them personalised. The teachers are encouraging students to be aware of their emotions by keeping track either on an emotions wheel or visual posters. Looking at feelings books, students are creating role-plays to express different emotions and are discussing how these feelings make them feel while also identifying strategies they can use to help manage their emotions.

# Science: Biological Sciences Year 3

Students will be learning about the unit 'Feathers, Fur or Leaves?' Throughout this unit, students will be thinking about living things and their features, and how these can be distinguished from non-living things. They will also participate in hands-on shared experiences learning to distinguish between plants and animals using their features. The students will then plan and conduct an investigation of the animal groups present in the school grounds.

#### Year 4

Students will be focusing on the fascinating unit 'Plants in Action'. They will learn how the plants that we depend on for oxygen, food, fibres, building materials, medicines and fuels, germinate and grow from the tiniest of seeds. Students will develop a sense of wonder and appreciation of plants as they investigate the process of germination, the stages in a plant's life cycle and what plants need for growth. So keep hold of those Woolworth's Discovery Garden pots and get excited for Plants in Action!





# Inquiry

Students are learning about the unit 'Sustaining Our World'. This Geography unit addresses concepts surrounding the sustainable use and management of natural resources. The students will be looking at what natural resources are, natural resources in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, sustainable water use, sustainable fishing and sustainable forestry. The students look forward to attending the excursion at the Melbourne Aquarium where they will discover environments where animals live and the adaptations animals have made in order to survive in these habitats.

### **Dates**

17<sup>th</sup> October: DOXA information 6:30pm 21<sup>st</sup> October: Year 3/4 Excursion to Aquarium 25<sup>th</sup> October: Whole School Assembly 3:00pm 4<sup>th</sup> November: ARPS Melbourne Cup day 5<sup>th</sup> November: Melbourne Cup Day NO SCHOOL 6<sup>th</sup> November: Curriculum Day: NO SCHOOL 8<sup>th</sup> November: Whole School Assembly 3:00pm 22<sup>nd</sup> November: Whole School Assembly 3:00pm 29<sup>th</sup> November: Whole School Concert 7:00 pm 6<sup>th</sup> December: Whole School Assembly 3:00pm 10<sup>th</sup> December: Orientation Day 11<sup>th</sup> December: Year 4 DOXA Camp 12<sup>th</sup> December: Year 4 DOXA Camp 13<sup>th</sup> December: Year 4 DOXA Camp 20<sup>th</sup> December: Year 4 DOXA Camp

### **Attendance**

Please ensure your child attends school every day and arrives by 8:50am to prepare for their day in order to maximise their learning time.

# **Nude Food**

Athol Road is a Nude food school so please make sure that your child brings food to school without wrappers. This will help to maintain a clean and ecofriendly environment for all of us to enjoy.

Few key tips:

Use reusable takeaway containers and lunchboxes to put your lunch and snacks in. Bring reusable water bottles.

Please remember to label all containers and belongings.