



# The Grade Four Newsletter

## WELCOME TO 2018

A huge welcome to 2018 to all our school community. We hope that everyone had a great holiday. It was wonderful to see our students return full of enthusiasm, ready to start the new year. Our teachers in Grade Four are as follows: Ellen Cake, Donna Wheatley, Helen Ferguson, Sara Pompei (for Raelene Harvey) and Bec Haley .

### LITERACY

**Reading:** In Grade 4 we do CAFE Reading (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary). Teachers use the CAFE System to assess, instruct and monitor student progress in reading. Students will also be using the Literacy Pro program to find just the right books and develop their comprehension by completing quizzes on books they have read. Students can access and complete quizzes from home as part of their reading or optional homework tasks.

Scholastic Literacy Pro Website:

<https://slz04.scholasticlearningzone.com/slz-portal/#/login3/AUS547F>

**Writing:** All text types and genres are addressed over the Grade 4 year. During this term we will be focusing on narratives and persuasive genres in text. We will continue to use V COP strategies and BIG WRITES to help develop the children's writing and share their writing pieces during class time. Students will also be working hard at their joined writing to earn their pen licenses this year.

### NUMERACY

This term the Grade 4's will be studying Place Value, Addition and Subtraction in Mathematics. In order to maximise your child's learning we conduct mathematics sessions in various groupings. To support your child, it would be great if you could practise automatic number skills such as times tables and quick addition sums with them at home.

### INQUIRY

This term our Inquiry unit is 'Healthy Active Kids' which focusses on healthy food and lifestyle choices. As a part of this unit we are having an incursion from the Life Ed Van which will enhance their engagement and understanding of this topic.

### HOMEWORK

This year the students will receive a homework matrix where they are able to choose certain activities, with others, such as reading, spelling and Mathletics, being non-negotiable. This will begin in week 3.

### TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Email is an environmentally friendly way of communicating that can save time when used effectively. At Mt Eliza Primary School we are committed to open, honest and timely communication. We are also committed to communication being respectful, measured, sensitive and constructive. The email addresses of the Grade 4 teachers are;

Ellen Cake: cake.ellen.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Helen Ferguson: ferguson.helen.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Donna Wheatley: wheatley.donna.d@edumail.vic.gov.au

Sara Pompei: pompei.sara.s@edumail.vic.gov.au

Bec Haley: haley.rebecca.k@edumail.vic.gov.au

If you have signed and returned the Email Communication Protocol then your teacher will be happy to use email to communicate with you.

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## **GRADE 3/4 TANTALISING TUESDAYS**

We are having Tantalising Tuesdays for the grade 3/4 students on Tuesdays after lunch. This will involve a variety of activities such as sport, arts and crafts, construction and gardening. Students will need to wear

## **PARENT HELPERS**

We are very grateful for the parents that are able to assist in the classroom. Once we are settled with our grades, classroom teachers will let parents know about opportunities to provide assistance in the classroom. Parents or other volunteers who assist will be required to have a working with children's check and read and sign a confidentiality form. If you completed a form last year you are not required to complete this again. A big thank you to those who have already offered to help with our cooking program.

## **PHILLIP ISLAND CAMP**

**Wednesday, 30th May—Friday, 1st June**

Our camp will be held in Term Two at Phillip Island. This camp provides a wonderful educational experience for our students. The range of adventure activities offered promote team building in a safe yet challenging environment. Information in regard to the camp will be distributed soon.

## **HATS**

Please remember that hats must be worn at school from the end of September through to the end of April.

Please ensure that your child's hat is clearly named on the inside.

Unfortunately over time many hats can become tatty and faded, in which case it would be time to purchase a new one.

## **ANAPHYLAXIS AND ALLERGIES**

We have some students with Anaphylaxis and severe allergies to a range of things in our year level. Please be aware of this throughout the year and classroom teachers will communicate requirements with you for special events.

## **EXCURSIONS AND NOTICES**

Please ensure all notices are returned by the due date so your child can attend, even if the cost is being deducted from the levy.

## **TIMELY ARRIVAL**

Children must be at school by 8.40 am, the bell goes at 8.45 am. Students should not arrive at school prior to 8.30 am as there is no supervision. Students arriving to class after 8.50 am must report to the office with their parent for a late slip or collect an orange late slip. Tardy arrivals are not good for the child involved and impacts on the running of the grade at this crucial time when teachers are setting up the day. We are sure you will appreciate this and make every effort to ensure timely arrival !

## **ABSENCE NOTICES**

Just a reminder that absence notices should be handed to your child's teacher the day they return to school after illness or other circumstances. A big thank you to the parents who consistently do this.

## **FLEXIBUZZ**

This is a free app we use to communicate school events. Please download this if you haven't already. Simply tick the Grade 4 and Whole School boxes.

**Thank you for your help and support. We look forward to having a fantastic, fun-filled term!**

**Ellen Cake, Donna Wheatley, Helen Ferguson, Sara Pompei, Bec Haley**

**Grade 4 Team**