



# IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152

GRADE 3 NEWSLETTER  
TERM 1

**PUPIL FREE DAY  
FRIDAY, MARCH 10**

February, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to all of our students and families, and a special welcome to those who are new to Iramoo in 2017. The students have had a positive start to the school year. We look forward to an exciting and productive term. The Grade 3 teachers for 2017 are **Miss Emma Bright (3EB)**, **Miss Jodie Cartwright (3JC – Grade Leader)**, **Mr Andrew Lishman (3AL)**, **Miss Ashley Patterson (3AP)** and **Ms Debbie Sharrock (3DS)**.

In addition to classroom teachers, **Miss Alisha Jessop** is the Grade 3 & 4 Co-Ordinator and **Mrs Deb Batty** (Education Support Staff) will be working in the Grade 3 area.

At the start of every term your child will bring home a Grade 3 newsletter similar to this one. Please read these newsletters carefully as they contain valuable information.

## **CURRICULUM**

### ***Literacy***

Our main focus during **Reading** sessions this term is independent reading. Students will learn about positive reading behaviours and how to choose *'just right'* books. We will also focus on building reading stamina so that students can read for longer periods of time. All students are expected to read both fiction and non-fiction texts. We will concentrate on understanding characters and events in stories but it is important for students to read a variety of books.

Students will focus on two main text types in **Writing**, persuasive texts and narrative texts (stories). Our students will learn about the importance of adjusting their writing when addressing different audiences. We will also work on using correct punctuation and interesting vocabulary in writing. Students will participate in weekly spelling investigations which involve exploring different sound and letter patterns.

### ***To assist your child with literacy at home you can:***

- visit your local library with your child and select books to read together
- provide a quiet place for your child to read
- provide paper and pencils for your child to use at home
- encourage your child to write about family experiences or events
- allow them to make and write birthday cards, letters and thank you notes
- discuss school topics with your child.

### ***Numeracy***

This term we will be focussing on many Number & Algebra topics. We have been investigating place value as well as different skip counting and number patterns. Students will be learning about different strategies to use when solving addition, subtraction and multiplication problems, including problems involving money. In addition to these number topics students will be learning about 2D and 3D shape features and shape transformations. They will also investigate different ways of representing data and how to read various times.

### ***To assist your child with mathematics at home you can:***

- give encouragement and praise to your child for a job well done
- talk about maths in real life situations with your child
- 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 use skip counting when counting objects at home, e.g. clothes pegs, pencils, blocks, etc.
- ask your child, "What is one thing you did in Maths today?"

### **Getting Ready In Numeracy – GRIN Intervention Program**

This program supports students with developing their maths skills. Selected Grade 3 students will be involved in three GRIN sessions per week to prepare them for maths lessons in their classroom. **Mr Simon Little** and **Mrs Dijana Pateras** (Co-ordinator) will be conducting the Grade 3 GRIN sessions. If your child is selected to participate in the GRIN program you will receive additional information from the GRIN teachers.

If you have any questions about the GRIN program please contact Mrs Pateras.

### ***Integrated Studies***

Our topic this term is **Community and Remembrance**. The focus for this unit is to explore the changes that have occurred to neighbourhoods and historical features/landmarks in our local community and why these changes may have occurred. Students will also learn about significant symbols, emblems, celebrations and commemorations that are remembered by members of our community, our nation and others around the world.

Grade 3 students will be learning about:

- Who lived here first and how do we know?
- How has our community changed?
- What features of our community have been lost and what features have been retained?
- How and why do people choose to remember significant events of the past?

### **SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM**

This term the focus will be on the 'Top 10 Not Negotiable Social Skills'. In class the Grade 3 students will be focusing on two of the 'Top 10 Not Negotiables' each week. These are the social skills that all of the Iramoo learning community follow and provide a platform for our classes to be calm and provide an appropriate learning environment for your child.

### **SPECIALIST CLASSES**

#### ***Grade 3 Specialist Timetable***

	<b>Computer/ICT</b>	<b>Visual Arts</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>Performing Arts</b>	<b>Library</b>
<b>3EB</b>	Friday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday
<b>3JC</b>	Friday	Friday	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday
<b>3AL</b>	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Tuesday
<b>3AP</b>	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Thursday
<b>3DS</b>	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Tuesday

Make sure that your child has an art smock for Visual Arts classes and a library bag for Library sessions. All students need to wear appropriate running shoes for Physical Education lessons.

### **Progressive Achievement Test - 'PAT' Testing**

Grade 3 students have begun the process of completing online tests for Reading and Numeracy. These tests will give the teachers an insight into what each student knows and what we need to teach them. Students will be retested later in the year which is one way teachers will monitor their progress in these subjects.

If you have any questions or queries about your child's learning during the year, please contact his/her teacher.

### **HOMEWORK**

The Grade 3 students are expected to read their take home reading book every school day. This needs to be recorded in their green reading diary. Students will be awarded stickers for every 25 days of home reading. We encourage students to choose 'just right' books from our take home reading tubs. If your child has other suitable reading material to read at home that is acceptable too.

As well as daily take home reading, each child in Grade 3 will also have a weekly homework sheet to complete based on what they learnt in class the week before. One side includes numeracy tasks and the other literacy tasks. Teachers will explain the homework to students every Monday. Homework tasks should be completed and returned to school on Thursday in the homework folder.

## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Please ensure that your child arrives at school by **8.45 a.m. each day** and attends school every day. Appointments should be made out of school hours where possible. Please phone the office or write a note to your child's teacher to explain any absence. If your child needs to be picked up early, please go to the **office first** so that an early leave note can be written before you collect them from their classroom. The early leaver note is to be given to your child's class teacher.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is compulsory. Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform to school every day. A written explanation is required for students who are out of uniform. No jewellery is allowed to be worn at school except small earrings (sleepers or studs) and watches. If you are unsure about what is and is not acceptable, please refer to our Student Dress Code which is available at our office and on our school website.

## SUNSMART

Term 1 is a 'SunSmart' term. This means that your child needs to have a hat at school so that they can wear it at recess and lunch times. The only hats that are acceptable are legionnaires or broad brimmed hats and should be labelled with your child's name.



Students who do not have a hat will go to the library at lunch time. We have been very pleased with our Grade 3 students so far, they have been very responsible with having their hats at school.

## KIDS & FRUIT

The Kids & Fruit program has been a very successful program at Iramoo. The eating of fruit is an important part of the day. If there is some particular reason why your child does not participate in the Kids & Fruit program it is essential that he/she has a piece of fruit (or healthy snack such as sultanas, carrots, etc.) from home so that it can be eaten at the same time the other students have their fruit. ***Eating a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables is a very important part of establishing healthy eating patterns throughout life.***



## WATER BOTTLES

Students are encouraged to bring a plastic or metal bottle of *plain water* to school which they can leave on their work tables and drink throughout the day as needed. (No sweet or sticky drinks please).

## MATHLETICS & ABC READING EGGS

We use two interactive e-learning resources called **Mathletics** and **ABC Reading Eggs** to compliment our teaching of Mathematics and English. Both programs originated in Australia.

**Mathletics** and **Reading Eggs** provide opportunities for your child to improve his/her mathematics and reading skills in an engaging and fun way. The primary goal is to improve mathematics results and essential reading skills.

These programs can be used online from home. Each child can use their Mathletics username and password to access both of the programs.

**Mathletics** can be found at [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au)

**ABC Reading Eggs** can be found at [www.readingeggs.com.au](http://www.readingeggs.com.au)

If you require further information about Mathletics and Reading Eggs please contact your child's teacher.

## MEETING FAMILIES

We are looking forward to meeting with families who have requested interviews on **Monday, February 13**. Having a positive relationship between teachers, students and families really goes a long way in helping children to succeed at school. If you haven't requested an interview with your child's teacher and would like to, please arrange a time that is convenient for you and for the teacher.

Thank you for taking the time to read this Grade 3 newsletter. Please discuss its contents with your child and encourage them to take some responsibility for the various actions and requirements needed.

**EMMA BRIGHT, JODIE CARTWRIGHT (GRADE LEADER), ANDREW LISHMAN, ASHLEY PATTERSON & DEBBIE SHARROCK  
GRADE 3 TEAM**

## **SPECIALIST CLASSES**

Below is a brief outline of what all Grade 3 students will be learning this term in our specialist areas:

### **Visual Arts**

Grade 3 students will be exploring a brief **Art History timeline** this term in Art. They will begin with some of the earliest recognised art in the Stone Age, creating their own textural surface before making a simple linear drawing over the top. Next, Grade 3 will move forwards to the 1870s to have a look at Impressionism and the well-known work of Claude Monet. Then they will fast forward to the 1960s, to the bright and commercial Pop Art movement. In this task students will have an opportunity to design their own sneaker using elements typical of Pop Artists including Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol. The skill focus will be on drawing, painting, design and collage.

### **Performing Arts**

This year students will be learning how to play the recorder by following musical notation. In Term 1, they will be using the Rock Recorder program, which provides lively backtracks to transform the simplest songs into full sounding performance pieces. They will also use the computer program entitled **Joytunes** to aid their learning and track their progress. I would encourage all students to purchase their own recorder. Good quality Yamaha recorders are available to buy from our school office for \$7. Students will also be involved in mime and movement activities this term. 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. This year's touring performance will take place in Term 1. The performers are a Spanish group and students will prepare for the performance by singing and playing accompaniment to songs that will be included in the show.

### **Physical Education (P.E.)**

To begin Term 1, Grade 3 students will participate in a range of co-operative games, which will encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. The students will then work towards improving their striking, focusing on hitting a moving target and hand eye co-ordination. They will be learning the skills and rules of bat tennis and will have the opportunity to play games against their peers. 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. Parents are encouraged to help prepare students by supporting training at home. Our Cross Country will be held at Wyndham Reserve on **Tuesday, March 7** and students are encouraged to do their best. To finish the term students will be participating in a golf unit that will incorporate learning the grip, stance and swing of the golf club. Regular feedback will be given to students to help them improve their performance.

**\*\*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 posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent.**

### **Information & Communication Technology (I.C.T.)**

Grade 3 students will start the year using the computer lab to do some very important testing for **Numeracy** and **English**. The results from these activities will be very helpful to the classroom teachers in their planning. We will then introduce and revise the basic features of iCal, a calendar program that enables them to add events and make a 'To Do' list. Students will also look at how to manage regularly occurring events and how to set up notifications. We will also use the Budd:e Cybersmart Online Program to learn about how to be safe online. Grade 3 students will finish the term using a spreadsheet to present the findings of a simple survey related to favourite sports teams.

