

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to the start of Term 2. We hope the children are well rested after the holidays and are ready to give 100% so that they can continue working towards achieving their learning goals.

LITERACY

The main **Writing** focus for this term will be independent writing and Aboriginal Dreamtime stories. Students will investigate the language and morals the stories contain before they create their own Dreamtime stories.

In **Reading** we will be focussing on learning about Australia's history through a historical fiction novel titled '**A Friend for Grace**'. Through this book study, our students will respond to the text by interpreting characters, predicting, visualising, questioning and inferring.

MATHEMATICS

During Term 2, Grade 4 children will be studying the following mathematics topics:

- Investigating the chance and probability of events occurring
- Measurement – including time, perimeter, area, volume, capacity, mass and angles
- Investigating multiplication, division, addition and subtraction methods
- Fractions and decimals
- Location and direction

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Our Integrated Studies topic for Term 2 is '**Australian History up to the 1800s**'. We will be looking at timelines and aspects of Indigenous culture before European settlement, as well as the events of and reasons for European settlement in Australia.



CAMP – VICTORIAN BLUE LIGHT YOUTH CAMP, MALDON

As you are already aware, the **Grade 4 Camp** is scheduled for **Monday, September 17 – Wednesday, September 19 (Group 1) and Wednesday, September 19 – Friday, September 21 (Group 2)**. The children will be staying at the Victorian Blue Light Youth Camp in Maldon, which is approximately a two-hour drive from Iramoo Primary School. The camp's main focus is bike education and road safety. While it is not necessary for students to be proficient cyclists to attend Grade 4 Camp, it would be a very good idea for students to get a lot of practise before camp. During Term 3, Grade 4 students will participate in a Bike Education unit, which looks at the basics of Bike Education and staying safe while cycling. Our Physical Education teacher, Mr Hodges, will take each class for practical sessions in our playground. Students will need to make arrangements to bring their bikes to school on their allocated days. Each student will need to have a suitably fitted, approved bicycle helmet. An Australian Standards approved bicycle helmet should have an AS/NZS2063 sticker on the inside of it. Helmets can be purchased from a variety of retail stores for approximately \$20. More information will be given about camp, as we get closer to the date.

iPADS

Last term, each student received their own iPad in a blue protective survivor case, labelled with their name. Grade 4 classes have established clear guidelines on how to use and look after their iPads and developed consequences for incorrect use.



Providing that the appropriate payment has been made and the correct forms have been returned, students are now taking their iPads home each night. It is extremely important that your child brings his/her iPad **fully charged** to school each day and your assistance in ensuring the iPad is charged overnight is appreciated.

HOME READING

Please remember that children should be reading at home each day for at least 20 minutes. This can be a 'Take Home' book from the Grade 4 area, selecting books from the school library, books from home or the local library. We encourage the children to neatly fill in their own take home reading diary. Please ensure that an adult signs the diary after reading each night.

GRADES 4, 5 & 6 STUDENT ATTITUDES TO SCHOOLSURVEY - We want our students to tell us what they think

The Student Attitudes to School survey is an annual Department of Education and Training student survey. The survey assists schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experiences of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience. This year the Student Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school from **Monday, May 14 to Friday, June 1**. The survey only takes 20 - 30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time on their iPad.

HOMEWORK

Recently there was a note sent home regarding students completing their homework using their iPads. Students can download their homework into Google Docs and complete it by typing in their answers. If your child does not bring their iPad home, they will continue to receive a hard copy of their homework to complete. All homework is to be completed and handed in on Thursday each week.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Please discuss the content with your child and encourage him/her to take some responsibility for the various actions and requirements needed.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Grade 4 students will be learning about this term in our specialist areas.

Visual Arts

This term Grade 4 students will be exploring the topic of 'Plants in Action.' The Victorian Curriculum stipulates that *through observational, imaginative and sensory investigations, students become more knowledgeable and discerning about their practices as a visual artist.* To enhance these skills, the students will begin by making a mixed media pumpkin artwork, inspired by the vibrant dotted artworks of Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama before moving onto a paper plate venus fly trap. They will then explore the Post-Impressionist style of well-known artist Vincent Van Gogh whose sunflowers will inspire a beautiful still life artwork. The planning phase of this major artwork will be in the form of a dice rolling game that should produce some varied and original results! The skill focus will be on construction, painting and drawing.

Performing Arts

Grade 4 students will complete work on the silent movie that they started in Term 1 when they devise and film a comedy skit resulting in an authentic looking silent movie after editing. The students will also begin learning the fundamentals of playing the drums, keyboard, guitar, bass guitar and ukulele. They will then develop these skills into playing as part of an ensemble. Both of these major learning experiences comply with the Drama and Music components of the Victorian Curriculum focusing on the performance and communication of creative ideas to audiences. Later this term, students will begin rehearsing the grade acts for our school concert on the evening of August 9. As part of our concert, we are also seeking students to perform a solo or small group act as part of the **'Iramoo's Got Talent'** section of the night. If you think that your child shows potential in the Performing Arts field, please encourage them to see Mr Packham about auditioning for a slot in the show. A touring group will be visiting the school this term to present their 'Aboriginal for a Day' program. More information will be sent home at a later date.

Physical Education (P.E.)

In accordance with the Victorian Curriculum, Grade 4 students will *students further develop their knowledge about movement and how the body moves.* Building on Athletics skills learnt last year, students will be practising sprints, relay, hurdles, long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put and discus in preparation for the Iramoo House Athletics. They will then be learning the skills and rules of Tee-ball with the focus being on striking and fielding. During these lessons, the students will participate in isolated skill development and have the opportunity to use these skills in modified games. To finish the term, students will be practising their catching and throwing using a lacrosse stick and participating in modified lacrosse activities.

Digital Technologies

The first of several film editing projects for Grade 4 this year will be in alignment with the Victorian Curriculum for students to *individually and with others, plan, create and communicate ideas and information safely.* Groups of students were recently filmed dancing to music in front of a green screen wearing drama masks called Neutramasks during Performing Arts lessons. They will now integrate their musical performance film in iMovie with a collection of Kid Pix background images designed to enhance the students' choice of music and dance style. Silent movies will also be filmed by groups of students in Performing Arts lessons ready for iMovie editing. Students will include important features of this type of old time film making such as fast action speed, black and white film effect, GarageBand mood music and slides containing the film title, captions/dialogue and credits when assembling their finished movies

Spanish Language

¡Hola! This term the Grade 4 students will continue to extend their Spanish vocabulary beginning with the topic of 'Our Favourite Things' (Nuestras Cosas Favoritas). The students will learn new vocabulary that will help compile a classroom booklet containing each student's favourite colour, fruit and season all in Spanish! In Term 2 we will conclude our **'Taste of Spanish'** for the year as I am soon off on maternity leave. The Spanish program for this group of students will resume next year in Grade 5. We are looking forward to yet another great term. **¡Hasta luego!**

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 taking or posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent/guardian.

**DEANNE ELLIOTT, ANDREW LISHMAN, ALISTER MURNANE,
CHERYL PANTELIDIS (TEAM LEADER) & IAN STOKES
GRADE 4 TEACHERS**