



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152
GRADE 3 NEWSLETTER
TERM 2

April, 2017

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, May 9 to Thursday, May 11	NAPLAN Testing
Monday, June 12	Queen's Birthday (public holiday)
Thursday, June 29	Parent Teacher Interviews (pupil free day)
Friday, June 30	Last day of Term 2, 2:30 p.m. finish (Roll-A-Thon)
Monday, July 17	First day, Term 3

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope that you had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. It has been fantastic to see the children settle back into the school routine so quickly and with such positive attitudes. We are looking forward to a busy term of learning in Grade 3 and have many great activities planned.

The information in this newsletter explains what our students will be learning about and will be involved in this term. Please take the time to read this as it contains important information about your child's education.

CURRICULUM

Literacy

Our main focus during **Reading** sessions this term will be understanding texts. Students will read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts and learn about how to use different thinking strategies while they read. This will help them to understand what they are reading. Some examples of these strategies are visualising, inferring and summarising. Students will also learn effective strategies for answering questions about what they read, for example rereading the text and finding key words. Students will continue to choose *'just right'* books and will be expected to read independently every day.

This term in **Writing** sessions students will revise persuasive and narrative texts (stories) in preparation for NAPLAN. Students will continue to participate in weekly spelling investigations involving high frequency words and letter patterns. They will also continue to use their Writer's Notebooks to record their ideas for writing. Students will participate in a poetry unit at the end of Term 2 where they will read and learn about poetry features so that they can write some poems of their own.

To assist your child with Literacy at home you can:

- remind your child to read the library book they borrowed from school and return it before their class library day
- ask your child what they would like to read about and then visit the local library together
- ask your child what their favourite part of the book was (fiction) or an interesting fact they read (non-fiction) when they finish reading
- support your child with reading difficult words before telling them what the word is, then encourage them if they read it correctly when they continue reading
- use a blackboard, whiteboard or notebook for your child to read and write family messages
- ask your child to write a shopping list and tick off the items as you buy or unpack them
- discuss ideas for a story and encourage them to write a short story.

Numeracy

During Term 2 we will continue learning about many *Number & Algebra* topics, such as place value, multiplication, division and fractions. Students will continue to use the problem solving strategies they learnt in Term 1 and learn some new strategies as well. In *Geometry* we will learn more about 3D shapes and their nets as well as the difference between prisms and pyramids. Students will learn about different types of measurement including mass, temperature and time. We will learn about how to use legends and grids to draw maps and pathways. Students will also participate in some probability investigations and learn about the difference between chance and luck.

To assist your child with Numeracy at home you can:

- use cards or dice to add and subtract basic number facts (e.g. $8 + 3$, $10 - 4$)
- talk about maths in real life situations with your child
- involve your child in handling small amounts of money, for example paying for something and working out how much change should be received
- encourage your child to use kitchen scales to order various items by mass (weight)
- use playing cards or dice and ask your child to read different numbers
- ask your child to tell you what time it is using an analogue and digital clock
- talk with your child about what they are learning about in maths.

Integrated Studies

During Integrated Studies this term our students will be learning about the topic *Being Aware, Being Safe*. This unit includes cyber safety, emergencies and water safety. Students will learn about how to behave safely online, how to stay safe in emergency situations, how to call for help in an emergency and how to behave safely in different aquatic (water) environments. The main focus of this unit is for students to be able to identify potentially dangerous situations and understand how to respond appropriately. Grade 3 students will also participate in the *Helmet Fit for a Hero* project which focuses on teamwork, design and construction.

MATHLETICS & ABC READING EGGS

This term we will continue using Mathletics and Reading Eggs in the classroom to compliment our teaching of Numeracy and Literacy. These programs can also be used at home to provide opportunities for your child to improve his/her mathematics and reading skills in an engaging and fun way. Each child has their own username and password to access the programs. If you require further information about Mathletics and Reading Eggs and how to use these programs at home, please contact your child's teacher. The website are listed below.

Mathletics can be found at www.mathletics.com.au

ABC Reading Eggspress can be found at www.readingeggs.com.au

THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)

The 2017 NAPLAN tests for Grade 3 and Grade 5 students will be held from Tuesday, **May 9 to Thursday, May 11**. The NAPLAN tests are conducted by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. The results of the tests will provide valuable information for parents/guardians and teachers about children's performance in Literacy and Numeracy. Later in the year, you will receive your child's personal report. This report will describe your child's particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. The report will also illustrate how your child has performed in relation to national benchmark standards.

Please support your child during NAPLAN testing by ensuring that they:

- attend school every day
- arrive at school by 8:45 a.m.
- have slept well each night
- have a nutritious breakfast **and**
- have their water bottle at school.

GRADE 3 NAPLAN TASKS, 2017

Task	Date	Time allocated
Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation)	Tuesday, May 9	40 minutes
Writing (Persuasive or Narrative Writing)	Tuesday, May 9	40 minutes
Reading - short answer questions	Wednesday, May 10	45 minutes
Mathematics – short answer questions	Thursday, May 11	45 minutes

SOCIAL SKILLS

Iramoo Primary School is committed to developing our children's social and personal skills. During Term 2 all students will be participating in the *You Can Do It* program. Each week students will participate in lessons to assist them in various social situations. Some of the lessons will focus on friendships, success, happiness and confidence.

HOMEWORK

We are very pleased that the majority of our Grade 3 children have been completing their homework and returning it to school on time. Please continue to remind your child that they need to bring their homework home on Monday, complete it and return it to school by Thursday. The homework given to the children is always explained in class and is basic revision of what they have been learning about at school. This homework is in addition to daily take home reading. Please ensure that your child records their reading each night and return it with their book each day. Teachers appreciate your support and assistance with this.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

It is important for all students to be at school each day and to arrive at school by 8:45 a.m. If this is not possible, please remember to call the school or write a note to your child's teacher explaining your child's absence or lateness. Children who are late to school are required to obtain a late pass from the office. Continued absences from school will affect the learning of your child. It is very important that your child attends school every day.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We were very pleased to see Grade 3 children wearing appropriate uniform throughout most of Term 1. During Term 2 we have much cooler weather. Children are encouraged to wear warmer jackets, coats, scarves and beanies to and from school and outside in the playground. Please remember that when inside children are to wear correct school uniform only.

WET DAY GAMES

When it is raining students will spend some time inside during recess and/or lunchtime. We encourage children to bring their favourite board game or card game to school to use inside. Please make sure that your child's game is clearly labelled with their name if they bring it to school. There are to be no electronic games brought to school.

**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 about this term in our specialist areas.

Visual Arts

Grade 3 students will explore the art of Asia this term. They will begin with a colourful collage rooster to celebrate the Chinese year of the Rooster as well as a colourful Japanese carp kite. In the middle of the term, students will take a short break from Asian art to move onto an integrated unit on story telling. The unit will involve them making backgrounds for a 'green screen' activity that they will later film and edit in I.C.T and Performing Arts. The skill focus will be on collage, construction and drawing.

Performing Arts

This term the students will continue to develop their skills in playing the recorder and reading musical notation. They will also be involved in script work and character development, adapting excerpts from a picture storybook into a dramatic videotaped performance. Students will have the opportunity to create backdrops for the story in their art lessons. The actors will then appear in front of these backdrops using green screen technology. Later in the term, students will create a rock video clip on an iPad using the Video Star application.

Physical Education (P.E.)

The first half of the term will be devoted to athletics training. Students will learn the skills required for sprints, relay, hurdles, long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put and discus. Each event will be broken down into simple steps and students will be given the opportunity to practise the skills required. For most Grade 3 students the athletic events will be a new experience and they can look forward to participating in a mini athletics day later in the year. Then the students will be learning the skills and rules of Tee-ball with striking and fielding the focus. During these lessons students will participate in isolated skill development and then have the opportunity to use these skills in modified games. To finish the term students will be practising their bowling skills including those used in lawn bowls, carpet bowls and ten-pin bowling.

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

Grade 3 students will begin Term 2 working on a graphing activity where the popularity of AFL football teams in each class is surveyed and the results entered into a spreadsheet program to be graphed. The students will then begin learning about safe and responsible use of the internet. In particular, we will discuss the 'Acceptable User Agreement' that all students and parents are required to sign and then begin using and managing email accounts. Students will then embark on a major project where they produce a short movie based on a picture storybook. This involves filming a performance in front of the green screen and using digital editing to place backgrounds, sound effects and titles into the story.



Keep the children's crossing clear. Parking is not allowed within 20 metres of the approach side and 10 metres of the departure side. Parking there makes it difficult and dangerous for children and the crossing supervisor to get a clear view of the road.

