

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the start of Term 2 – we have an extremely busy time ahead of us with many extra activities planned! 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.

KEY DATES

Tuesday, April 18 - Friday, April 28	Grade 4 Swimming Program (8 day intensive program)
Monday, May 1 – Wednesday, May 3	Grade 4 Camp 1, Maldon (Grades 4CP & 4SF)
Monday, May 8 – Wednesday, May 10	Grade 4 Camp 2, Maldon (Grades 4AM & 4KB)
Friday, May 12	Mother's Day Stall
Tuesday, May 30	Grade 4-6 Athletics Carnival
Monday, June 12	Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)
Thursday, June 29	Parent/Teacher Interviews (pupil free day)
Friday, June 30	Last day of term and Roll-A-Thon (2.30 p.m. finish)
Monday, July 17	First day of Term 3

LITERACY

The main **writing** focuses for this term will be poetry and independent writing. We will explore a variety of poetry before students will begin to create their own pieces. We will also read Aboriginal Dreamtime stories and folk tales from a range of cultures all around the world. Students will investigate the language and morals the stories contain before they create their own Dreamtime stories. Our focus for independent writing this term will be for students to increase the number of writing pieces they complete.

In **Reading** we will explore a variety of techniques that authors use in poems. We will also revise selecting a *'just right'* book. This allows students to choose books that suit their reading ability and interests. We will also focus on the skills of inferring, visualising and asking questions when reading.

MATHEMATICS

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

- Investigating the chances and probability of events occurring
- Measurement – including time, perimeter, area, volume, capacity, mass and angles
- Investigating multiplication and division methods
- Investigating number patterns
- Fractions and decimals
- Addition and subtraction involving money
- Location and direction
- Problem solving- breaking problems into smaller parts.

We will also continue to build on children's ability to calculate mentally through strategies such as doubling and halving numbers, skip counting and applying known number facts.

Getting Ready In Numeracy (GRIN)

Students who participated in the GRIN program last term displayed improved attitudes and confidence towards Numeracy, which was fantastic to see. This term they will continue to attend two sessions per week to prepare them for Numeracy lessons and further increase their mathematical skills and confidence in the classroom.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Our Integrated Studies topic for Term 3 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.

PROGRAM ACHIEVE 'YOU CAN DO IT'

This term students will learn about the very important concepts of **Getting Along** and **Confidence** as part of our Program Achieve social skills program.

Getting Along is the ability to mix well with others, to be tolerant and non-judgemental, to be able to think through problems independently and to work within accepted rules of the school and classroom.



The activities on **Getting Along** are designed to teach students about helping others with schoolwork, working nicely in small groups, and managing our temper when someone is mean to us or doesn't do what we want. Examples include:

- listening when someone is talking in class
- not punching someone who pushes you
- following the teacher's directions when working together with other classmates in a group

Confidence is the ability to believe in yourself, to work independently, have an optimistic outlook and recognise mistake making as part of authentic learning. It means trying something new and not being afraid of making a mistake. The activities on **Confidence** are designed to help our students develop a confident mindset. They are designed to not only teach students the importance of being confident but also to provide students with ways for maintaining their confidence in the face of difficult situations and setbacks. Common examples of confident behaviours include:

- trying something new ("having a go")
- talking with a strong voice
- trying to do something hard without asking for help

CAMP – VICTORIAN BLUE LIGHT YOUTH CAMP, MALDON

As you are already aware, the **Grade 4 Camp** is scheduled for **Monday, May 1 – Wednesday, May 3 (Grades 4CP and 4SF) and Monday, May 8 – Wednesday, May 10 (Grades 4AM and 4KB)**. 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.

A detailed list of necessities and a confidential medical form have already been provided. There are still a small number of medical forms that have not been returned – please complete your form carefully and return it to school as soon as possible if you have not already done so. **Children cannot attend camp without a completed medical form.** Spare copies of the medical form are available from the school office.

On the morning of **Monday, May 1**, students from **Grades 4CP & 4SF** should arrive at school at the usual time and assemble in the central area of the BER. Students who require medication must have an adult accompany them in giving the medication directly to **Mrs Cheryl Pantelidis**. The \$5 which students are allowed to bring for the Maldon lolly shop must be handed to **Mr Ian Stokes** in an envelope labelled with the student's name and grade. Any money over \$5 will be returned to the parent/guardian.

On the morning of **Monday, May 8**, students from **Grades 4AM & 4KB** should arrive at school at **7.30 a.m.** and assemble in the central area of the BER. Students who require medication must have an adult accompany them in giving the medication directly to **Mrs Sandra Cameron**. The \$5 which students are allowed to bring for the Maldon lolly shop must be handed to **Miss Alisha Jessop** in an envelope labelled with the student's name and grade. Any money over \$5 will be returned to the parent/guardian.

Each child is required to **bring a packed snack, lunch and a drink for the first day of camp**. Children are **not allowed** to bring food into their accommodation so please **ensure that any containers or bags that your child has for lunch can be thrown away afterwards**.

HELMETS AND BIKE EDUCATION

During Term 2, 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 two practical sessions in the playground. Students will need to make arrangements to bring their bikes to school on their allocated days. Below is another copy of the practical riding timetable. Please refer to the note Mr Hodges sent out at the end of Term 1 for more information.

Practical Bike Riding Timetable			
4AM	4SF	4CP	4KB
Wednesday, April 19	Wednesday, April 19	Wednesday, April 26	Wednesday, April 26
Wednesday, June 14	Wednesday, June 14	Wednesday, June 21	Wednesday, June 21

While it is not necessary for students to be proficient cyclists to attend Grade 4 Camp, each student will need to have a suitably fitted approved bicycle helmet to take with them. 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.

iPADS

Last term, all students 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, students are now able to take 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.

MATHLETICS & ABC READING EGGSRESS

At Iramoo we use two interactive e-learning resources called Mathletics and ABC Reading Eggspress to complement our teaching of Mathematics and English. Both programs originated in Australia.

Mathletics and Reading Eggspress 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.

Each child has their own username and password in order to access the programs.

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

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

HOME READING

Please remember that children should be bringing home a 'just right' book to read and share each night. It is better for your child to bring home a book that they find a bit easier and enjoy rather than struggle with one that is too challenging. Children are able to select books from the school library as well as from a selection of levelled books shared amongst the Grade 4 classes. Students may also read 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. If your child does not bring home a book each night to read please contact your child's teacher.

We believe that your child's education is a 'team effort' between home and school, therefore we appreciate your continued support with reading at home. Please ensure that your child has a quiet, comfortable place to read uninterrupted for at least 20 minutes each night. We would like to congratulate the children who are consistently recording their reading at home and returning their reading diary to school. As well as children reading independently, we recommend that you listen to your child read and discuss what they are reading and why they have chosen a particular book.

HOMEWORK

Overall the Grade 4 children have been doing a good job completing their weekly homework. It is returned by the majority of students each week and generally completed to a high standard. Homework, take home books and school newsletters etc. should be transported to and from school in an Iramoo blue book bag. It is a good routine to encourage children to go through the contents of their book bag each night and make sure it is packed ready for school the next day. The Grade 4 teachers would like to thank parents/guardians who monitor the completion of homework each week.

UNIFORM

We were very pleased to see Grade 4 children wearing appropriate uniform on the majority of occasions throughout Term 1. During Term 2 we have much cooler weather, therefore children are allowed and encouraged to wear warmer jackets or jumpers to and from school. Please remember that whilst in class, children are to be wearing *only* correct school uniform.

PUNCTUALITY

School commences at 8.50 a.m. It is very important for children to be punctual each morning. They need to be at school by 8.45 a.m. to ensure that learning programs run smoothly and so that children do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities.

Children who are late to school are required to obtain a late pass from the office. If your child is absent from school, a signed note is required when they return to school to explain their absence. Your vigilance in ensuring that your child attends school every day is greatly appreciated.

SOCIAL SKILLS/BEHAVIOUR

School and classroom expectations are consistently discussed so that students know and understand the appropriate behaviour that they need to demonstrate. We encourage all students to be cooperative and caring members of the school community both in the classroom and in the playground.

So far this year, the majority of the Grade 4 students have proven to be very good role models around the school and during class time. We would like to remind families that for children to attend the extra activities we provide such as Grade 4 camp, an appropriate level of behaviour and a positive attitude towards adults and other students is required.

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

Grade 4 students will be focused on creating work that will compliment their integrated studies of Bike Ed as well as their active camp experience. They will explore themes of healthy living with a large-scale healthy body artwork that will include bones and organs decorated with colours and textures reminiscent of reality. They will also create a happiness head that they will fill with images they associate with happiness. Lastly, students will also use active figure templates to create a scene that captures a healthy lifestyle. The skill focus will be on collage, drawing and final presentation.

Performing Arts

To begin the term students will complete work on the silent movie that they started in Term 1. They will devise a comedy skit, which will be filmed and then edited in their computer lessons. This will result in an authentic looking silent movie. Students will then be given the opportunity to learn to play various instruments such as keyboard, guitar, bass guitar, ukulele and drums. They can also choose to provide the vocals. They will begin learning the fundamentals of playing the instruments and then develop these skills into playing as part of an ensemble.

Physical Education (P.E.)

To begin this term, Grade 4 students will be developing their athletics skills, building on the knowledge learnt last year. Students will be practising their 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. The Grade 4 students can look forward to participating in all events at our Iramoo Athletics Day held on **Tuesday, May 30** at the VUT Athletics track. 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 across three disciplines including lawn bowls, carpet bowls and ten pin bowling.

****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 4 students will start the term editing their Neutramask movies filmed in Performing Arts at the end of Term 1. This project involves the students creating and using backgrounds that enhance the music and dance style of a creative dance performed in front of the 'green screen'. The students will then undertake a second project in collaboration with Performing Arts where they work in groups to develop and film a short story. The movie clips will be edited during ICT lessons in the style of a silent movie. This will involve a variety of editing techniques including removing the sound, adding backing music to reflect the mood of the story and adjusting the speed. Time permitting, the children will then advance their skills and understandings in using spreadsheets by conducting a survey on a topic of their choice before presenting the results in tables and graphs.



Spanish Language

¡Bienvenidos! Last term the students had an enthusiastic start to Spanish. We will be revisiting our greetings, numbers and the Spanish alphabet, as well as beginning our first Spanish project titled '**About Us in Español**'. The students will have a chance to write about themselves and produce a class book written in Spanish. We look forward to a fantastic Term 2. **¡Adios Amigos!**



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

**KRISTEN BOYD (GRADE LEADER), ALISTER MURNANE,
CHERYL PANTELIDIS & IAN STOKES
GRADE 4 TEACHERS**