



Grade 3/4 Parent Information Session

2023

2023 Team



3/4 HN

Erin Hick (Mon-Wed)
Caitlin Noonan (Thurs-Fri)



3/4 M

Tania Masut (Mon,
Wed-Fri)
Michelle Pitt
(Tuesday)



3/4O
James
Ollington
(Mon-
Friday)

3/4 K

Tash Kittelty
(Mon-Friday)



3/4D

Hayden Davies
(Mon-Friday)

Religious Education



You have enrolled your child in a Catholic School.

In a Catholic school, your child is nurtured in an environment which engages with the Gospel teachings, through the Diocesan Curriculum, “To Live in Christ Jesus”

This includes:

- Daily prayer
- Attendance at school Masses and Liturgies
- 2.5 hours of Religious Education every week, focusing, at different times on 4 keys

“Strands”:

- Triune God
- The Life and Mission of Jesus,
- Sacramental Church
- Christian Life and Catholic Social Teaching.

Learning is assessed and reported on, as for any other subject area.

Sacramental Program at St Ita's



The Combined Parishes of St Joseph's Warragul and St Ita's Drouin invite families to Information Sessions regarding the Sacraments in our Parish, for families to find out what the Sacramental Program entails.

Grade 3 students are invited to make their First Reconciliation (Term 1 2023)

Grade 4 students are invited to make their First Holy Communion (Term 4 2023)

Information regarding the Sacrament Program can be found in the school newsletter.

Please note: the Sacrament Program is not compulsory for our students, but rather a choice for each family.

Whole School Approach to Positive Behaviours (WSAPB)

RESPECT



We care for our school and belongings

We take pride in our learning



We are responsible

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you" - Matthew 7:12

TEAMWORK



We listen

We solve problems

We work together



"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" - Psalm 133:1

RESILIENCE



We have a positive mindset

We bounce back

We try our best



"Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" - Joshua 1:9

INCLUSIVENESS



We share our time and belongings

We are welcoming

We take turns



"Honour all people. Love everyone!" - 1 Peter 2:17

COMPASSION



We show love and kindness

We are forgiving

We help others



"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." - Ephesians 4:32

Whole School Approach to Positive Behaviours (WSAPB)

Respect

Teamwork

Compassion

Inclusiveness

Resilience

WSAPB is an approach that promotes positive behaviours throughout our learning community.

Each fortnight we will focus on one of our WSAPB expectations. This happens via classroom activities, stories and class discussions. Being a whole school approach, these expectations are promoted in all areas of our students learning, including outside during play times and within specialist classes.

There is a whole school assembly held every second Friday, during which one student will be chosen from each grade to receive an award for positively displaying our fortnightly WSAPB expectation.

English Writing and Spelling



Writing

This term students will focus on their Narrative writing. This will have explicit focus' on Sizzling Starts (Starting sentences that grab the reader's attention), character developments, structure (beginning, middle, end), paragraphs, scene setting, setting the mood and developing plans. They will use all of these skills to develop their own narrative.

Spelling

In Grade 3&4 we follow a phonological (letter sounds and blends) approach to spelling. We follow on from the LLLL program run in Foundation to 2 utilising parts of the LLLL program in term one and then moving to a SMART spelling supported by THRASS approach.

Reading

WHY READ FOR 20 MINUTES A DAY?

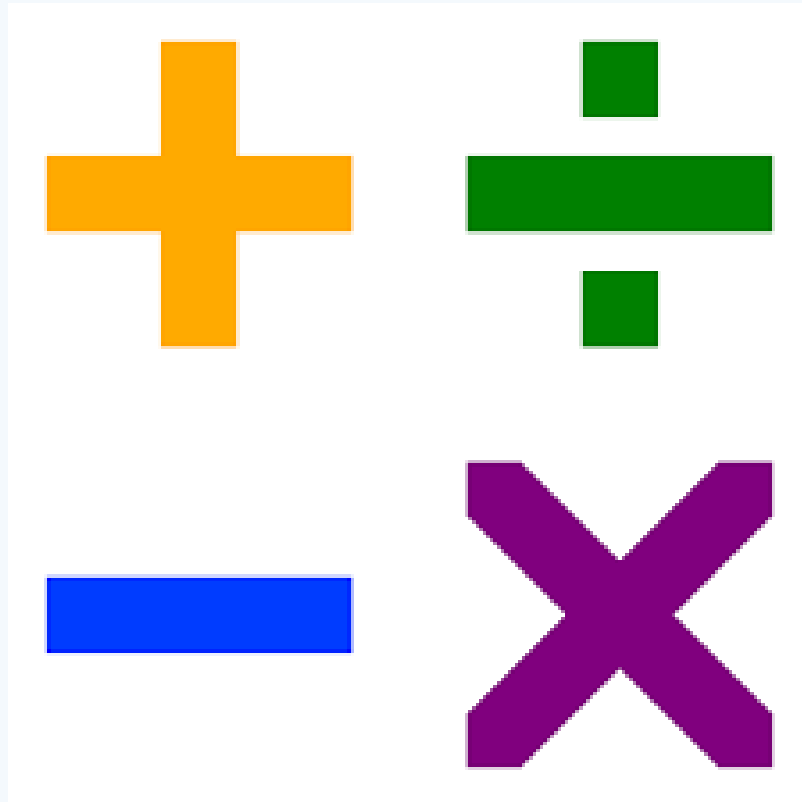
| STUDENT A | STUDENT B | STUDENT C |
|---|---|---|
| 20 MINUTES PER DAY | 5 MINUTES PER DAY | 1 MINUTE PER DAY |
| 1,800,000 WORDS PER YEAR | 282,000 WORDS PER YEAR | 8,000 WORDS PER YEAR |
| SCORES IN THE 90 TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS | SCORES IN THE 50 TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS | SCORES IN THE 10 TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS |

**So, how do you make a child
a better reader?
READ MORE!**

Reading

Reading is a large focus in class and takes a very structured approach. Students will have varying reading tasks in class that they work on completing such as, novel studies, Readers Theatre, Kids News articles, Behind The News (BTN, when age appropriate), EPIC readers (Online levelled readers with quizzes) and focused worksheets. Reading underpins all subjects and therefore while there is an explicit focus on it during literacy blocks your students will get continues exposure during the day.

Maths



During term 1 your child will focus on Number and Place Value, moving into the 10,000 and 100,000 and for those who are reading into the millions. This is an important concept to understand to ensure that each child has the correct understanding to make addition, subtraction, multiplication and division easier and more relatable in the coming terms. This topic does cover aspects of the four processes (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) but with a heavier emphasis on why each number is where it is and the importance of it. Students will also look at Location and Transformation. This will largely focus around mapping. This is an excellent hands on unit where once they are familiar with the key components of a map they will be able to put them into practice making their own. This is a perfect time to pull the old Melways out and show the kids what was used before GPS and phones.

We will also have NAPLAN towards the end of Term One for our Grade 3 students. While we do not “teach to the test” we will have a focus on making the work look like NAPLAN so the students are familiar and comfortable with the format. There will be plenty of information coming out to you in the coming weeks regarding NAPLAN.

Integrated

During Term 1, students will look at Biological Science with the focus on living and non-living things. The unit is split into two main categories with a short focus at the beginning to define what is alive and what is not. This is particularly important when looking at the second focus area and identifying plants, trees, algae, moss as alive or not. The first main focus is animals, their characteristics, their classification and life cycles. The second being plants, their life cycles, how they get energy, what roles they play and why some are invasive and some are good for our environment. Students will learn about these using multiple learning styles. They will utilise short videos, hands on experiments and guided research on their Chromebook to complete this unit.



Specialist Classes

Library with Mrs McKenna:

Grade 3/4 students attend a 40-minute Library class once a week.

A library lesson involves whole class reading, independent reading or shared reading, discussions, reading responses and the opportunity to borrow books for home. Students require a library bag to borrow books to take home. Any library bag is suitable.

Students have the opportunity to participate in Library Club on Tuesday at lunchtime.

Physical Education with Miss Roberts:

This term students can participate (optional) in the running club every Wednesday from 8:30 am to 8:50 am.

In Physical Education this Term, students will be practising and refining fundamental movement skills in different movement situations. Students will participate in a variety of invasion games and sports such as soccer, football, basketball and netball.

Students will be practising kicking, throwing, catching and bouncing. They will also learn to apply movement concepts and strategies.

Later this Term (10th March) students will participate in the House Athletics Carnival and Whole School Cross Country Friday 31st March.



Specialist Classes

Art with Mrs Leary:

The Art focus this terms will be looking at the elements and principles of Art through colour and line. Students will be looking at an artist called Keith Haring and in the first couple of weeks will be setting the scene and building relationships with students.

Art Club will be held every Monday at lunch time.

Japanese with Mr Gregory:

This term students will continue to build, refine and extend their learning of the Japanese language.

Word of the Week will commence this year where the school captains present a useful word or phrase each week during morning announcements.

Japanese Club will be held on Thursday or Fridays at lunchtime from 1:30-1.55 pm.

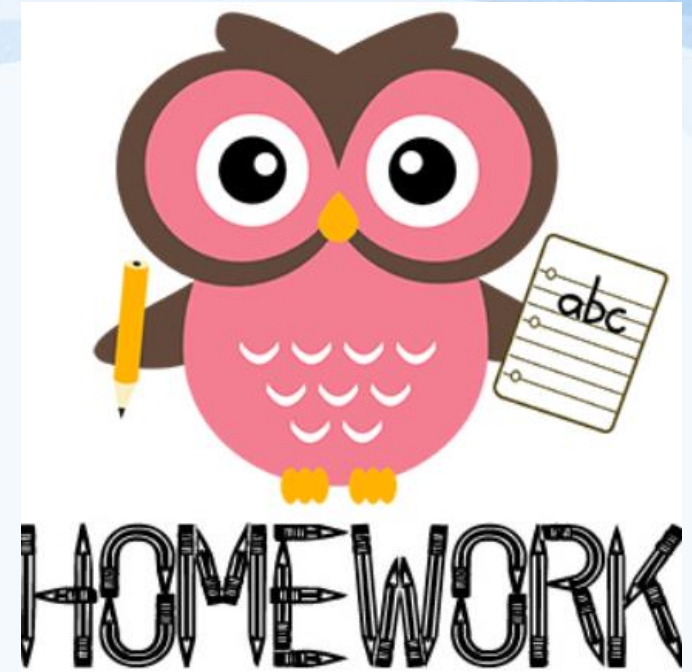


Homework

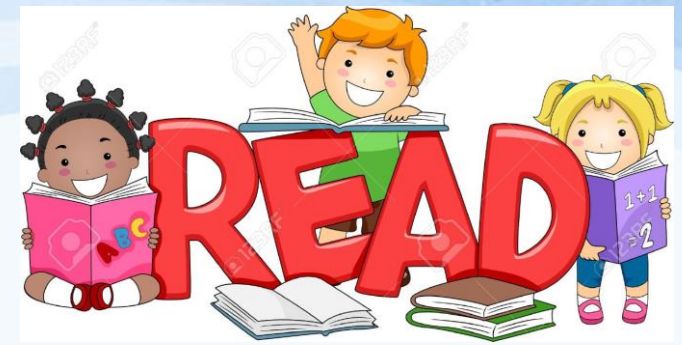
Homework

Homework will be sent home in the form of a booklet every two weeks. It will contain a spelling activity based on our phoneme (sound) of the week, maths tasks to consolidate your child's learning in the classroom, some mathematical open ended tasks and a reading log to record any take-home readers.

We understand that many families lead very busy lives and that homework is not possible every night, however as teachers we would love to see your child develop a sense of pride, build on their work ethic and develop great study habits! One or two nights a week is better than nothing at all! Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you require any assistance with homework.



Take Home Books



Reading at home

Students at Grade 3 & 4 level are continuing to develop as readers. Reading at home on a regular basis is a great way for students to consolidate their skills and share with you their successes. It is assumed that students are reading most nights of the week. (We understand that some families have sports and other things on.) The recommended amount of home reading is 20 minutes per night. To record any reading at home, reading logs will be sent home regularly as part of a homework booklet. If your child forgets their take-home reader please do not worry; reading can take form in the way of newspapers, magazines, or library books. We would encourage a mix of both independent reading and reading to someone to encourage both visual and auditory development.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Books that your children bring home to read should be slightly lower than what they would read in class with the intention that your child has a positive reading experience.
- Comprehension is important. Asking questions to your child after reading is a great way to help them understand what they have just read. Ask simple questions like “What was your favourite part of the story and why?” or “Which character did you like and why?”
- Research shows that reading on a daily basis (including the comfort of your own home) develops a students use and understanding of vocabulary!

Chromebooks

Chromebooks are used for a wide variety of learning tasks and subjects and are a key tool in our day to day class life.

Being one of our most important learning tools these magnificent devices come with a few expectations. You will have noticed that a user agreement has been uploaded to Class Dojo outlining the rules for them. These **MUST** be signed by a parent or guardian and the student. This also outlines possible consequences for misuse.



Food at school

A few reminders in relation to food at school:



- Please provide rubbish free lunches where possible, however we do understand this is not always realistic.
- If using reusable containers in lunchboxes, please label them. The amount of unlabelled empty containers we have now in lost property could fill any good Tupperware cupboard!
- Messy fruit is for recess, not during quiet fruit time. Some classes may read books while eating fruit and we would love to preserve the quality of our school resources by not having messy and sticky fingers touching them.
- Brain food can be eaten during learning time. It must be easy to eat fruit or vegetables, non messy, non time consuming and if possible, in a separate, labelled container.

We thank you for your support!



Personal Resources

All students have been provided with a pencil case, pencils, textas, workbooks, glue sticks, rubbers and sharpeners. We do understand that sometimes students like to bring a few extra things like headphones, usb computer mouse, pencil cases and other various items. If students are to bring these they **NEED** to be clearly labelled. Please also keep in mind that items brought from home are the sole responsibility of the students and the school accepts no responsibility for them.



Camp and excursions

Camp

Where: CYC – The Island, Phillip Island

When: Term 3–Last Week of Term

Wednesday 13th–Friday 15th September 2023

This camp is Year 4 students only. More information will be sent home closer to the date!

Excursion

We will be confirming an excursion for later in the year. The excursion will have direct links to our curriculum and support the students learning in this area. All students in Year 3/4 will be attending the excursion.





Communication

We believe that effective communication between school and home is invaluable to a positive learning experience for the children.



ClassDojo is our primary and preferred form of communication between families and school. LOOK OUT for posts from school with updates and pictures showcasing your child's learning.

ClassDojo is the best way to contact your child's teacher and they will reply to your message as promptly as possible. Responses may not always be immediate, and if you require communication with your child, please call the school office and a message can be relayed. Teachers are not 'on call' to parent requests and although some may respond quicker, it's a school expectation that responses are followed up within 24 hours.

Our school newsletter is published weekly on a Wednesday and can be accessed on the Schoolzine app.



ST ITA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
DROGHDA

Parent Access Module Login

Please login with your credentials, as supplied by your school.

email address

☐ Keep me logged in

[Forgot Password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

School reports and permission forms are now all digital and will be uploaded to PAM (Parent Access Module). You will receive a notification email with a link to follow to access PAM when necessary.



Teacher's email:

3 / 4 HN ~ Mrs Erin Hick - ehick@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au
and Mrs Caitlin Noonan - cnoonan@stidoruin.catholic.edu.au

3 / 4 M ~ Ms Tania Masut - tmasut@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au
and Mrs Michelle Pitt - mpitt@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au

3 / 4 D ~ Mr Hayden Davies - hdavies@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au

3 / 4 K ~ Mrs Natasha Kittelty - nkittelty@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au

3 / 4 O ~ Mr James Ollington - jollington@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au

Student absences can be reported either to your classroom teacher via Class Dojo, via the PAM website or via phone on 5623 7222.



Thank you for entrusting your children to us for 2023!

We are looking forward to a rich and rewarding year.

