



The **more** that you read, the **more** things you will know. The **more** that you learn, the **more** places you'll go.  
**Dr. Seuss**

# 3/4 Newsletter

## Welcome to Term 1, 2020

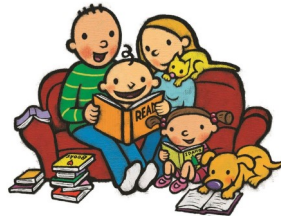
Welcome back to WYPS for a very busy and exciting term 1! We hope everyone had a very enjoyable and relaxing holiday. Term 1 is always a jam-packed term full of learning and growing together.

This year we have 4 grades of 3/4 students. 3/4A with Mrs Syme and Mrs V and next to her is 3/4B with Miss Vaughan (the far right portable facing the school). In the building opposite (the brand new building), we have 3/4C with Miss Young and Miss McDonald in 3/4D. Whilst students have been allocated specific grades, as always we will continue to do lots of mixed teaching and will come together in joint learning areas where grades will meet regularly and learn together.

### Literacy

Students will participate in 5 hours of reading and 5 hours of writing every week. During Term 1, we have a big focus on establishing our Writer's Notebooks and revising the 6+1 traits of writing (the way we teach writing). In reading, we will begin by setting up our Reader's Workshop and establishing the use of our Reader's Notebooks.

Establishing a nightly reading routine with your child will help strengthen their decoding and comprehension skills and foster a positive approach to reading in the classroom. Mem Fox summed up the importance of home reading when she said:



*"If every parent understood the huge educational benefits and intense happiness brought about by reading aloud to their children, and if every parent and every adult caring for a child read aloud three stories a day to the children in their lives, we would probably wipe out illiteracy in one generation" Reading Magic - Mem Fox.*

Through reading, children also learn about writing and the different ways authors connect ideas to tell stories or share information. Reading together is also a fantastic way to help your child build their vocabulary, understanding of grammar and the use of punctuation. The more children read the better readers and writers they become!

After your child has read, please take a few minutes to discuss the story, more specifically, an interesting/funny part, an unfamiliar word they may have noticed, favourite character or something in the story that may have caused an emotional reaction. Making these connections can help improve your child's understanding of what they have read and is vital to their comprehension skills.

We will have a deliberate focus on spelling by teaching our students five different strategies they could use to solve a challenging word. Children will have relevant spelling words focusing on spelling generalisations they need to learn or words they are frequently using in their writing.

### Morning routine

Students are to place their bag in a line outside of the classroom when they arrive at school and make use of the opportunity to have a run around and be active outside before our school day starts at 9.00am. On wet weather days, teachers will open the classroom to allow students to participate in quiet activities out of the weather. When the bell goes, please remind your child to line up outside of the classroom ready to start the day.

### Numeracy

Each week students will participate in 5 hours of mathematics (2 x number, 2 x applied and 1 x problem solving).

In number, the students will develop a deep understanding of numbers (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, place value etc.).

Our applied maths topics for Term 1 will be geometry and time.

How you can help at home:

Talk about the different 2D and 3D you can see in your environment e.g. what 3D shape is an orange? Search for these shapes at home and count up the edges (where two faces meet), vertices (corners) and faces (the surface).

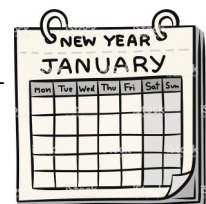
Ask your child to tell you the time throughout the day using both analogue and digital formats! Talk about the different language use when discussing the time e.g. o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past.



### Important events happening in Term 1

Our swimming program is booked for Term 1.

More information regarding the swimming program will come home soon.



## PE Days

3/4A — Monday

3/4B — Monday

3/4C — Tuesday

3/4D — Wednesday

Students are welcome to bring runners to change into on these days.



## Food

Please ensure your child has something to eat at hard fruit time every day, recess and lunch.

Students are given 10 minutes eating time at both recess and lunch before they go out to play.

Hard fruit should be a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables, e.g. a banana or apple, cut up watermelon, carrot or celery sticks.

Please be mindful of sending food in containers that students are able to open as this builds their independence.

To reduce waste removal costs at school, children will be bringing all food packaging home. Please consider sending your child's food in sustainable, reusable containers as it is good for the environment.

## Warm Weather

It is a great idea to send your child to school with sunscreen on and a packed drink bottle in the warm weather. All 3/4 classrooms are equipped with air conditioners and fans and teachers will encourage students to drink water regularly throughout the day. Please only send water to school, soft drinks are not allowed.



## Assembly

Please note that assembly is held weekly on **Friday at 2.30pm** in the hall. We hope to see you there!

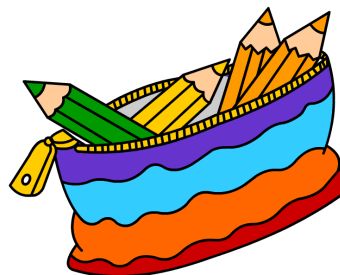
## Concerns

If you have any worries or concerns please speak with your child's classroom teacher. All teachers can be contacted via the Compass app if you wish to make a time to meet with one of us.

## Things to bring to school

If you have not done so already could you please make sure your child brings the following items to school:

- School hat (worn in Terms 1 and 4)
- Any spare school supplies from their book list.



## Homework

In 3/4, students are required to complete homework each week. Homework will be sent home on a Monday and is due to be returned to school on the following Monday morning. Students will be given a A4 page which outlines their homework for the week and an exercise book in which to complete and record any set tasks.

**Reading:** Students are expected to read every night at home as a part of their homework routine. This is to be recorded each night. Some students complete this in the morning, some straight after school and some at bedtime. We encourage students to find a time that works for them and fits into their family routine.

**Times Tables:** Each child will be working towards mastering a set of times tables. Regular practise of times tables is an expectation in 3/4 as a part of their homework.

If homework is not complete and returned on the Monday, students will work on any incomplete tasks during recess or lunchtime.

We understand that many students have after school sporting and family commitments. If your child is having trouble completing their homework due to commitments outside of school, please come see your child's teacher to discuss possible options e.g. homework club.

