

Middle Syndicate Newsletter

Term 2 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2. We look forward to another term of learning together.

The Middle Team is as follows:

Janine Robson	Year 4	Room 14 (Year 4 Team Leader)
Will Seedhouse	Year 4	Room 15
Astrid Weeks	Year 4	Room 16
Melissa Erceg	Year 4/3	Room 13
Dawn Pollard	Year 3	Room 26 (Year 3 Team Leader)
Jackie Fitzgerald	Year 3	Room 25
Julie Marshall	Year 3	Room 27

Curriculum

Writing

The Middle School writing program focuses on teaching students to write a series of sentences on one topic such as a personal experience, an area of personal interest or a response to a new experience or new knowledge. To link writing to our inquiry this term the children will be writing instructions and procedural text. There is a proven link between children who read a lot and the amount of new words they encounter, therefore a conscious effort at understanding and using their spelling words is also important.

Reading

The Middle School reading programme continues Week 1, with the expectation of daily reading at home. The teachers read daily with groups of children. In Year 3 some students will bring his/her book home to reread with you, other students should have a book or other written material (comics, research based) to read at home. In Year 4 the students will choose reading material from the library, a journal story they have read in class or a book from home. Please make time to listen to and encourage your child, by asking questions that prompt him/her to think about the story. The Year 3 students only, have a reading log that is sent home daily with their book. Please fill this out with your child to encourage regular reading.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry this term is a technology unit based around production and process technology. As part of this unit of work the middle syndicate will be visiting Tip Top factory in week 4 to see how products can be mass produced.

The trips are on the following dates:

Tuesday 21st May	Rooms 25 and 27
Wednesday 22nd May	Rooms 14 and 15
Thursday 23rd May	Room 13 and 16
Friday 24th May	Room 26

Maths

Regular practice of the following will help to consolidate learning done at school;

- simple basic facts to 20 including addition and subtraction
- double numbers (8+8, 9+9)
- skip counting in in 2's, 5's, and 10's
- learning 2, 5, 10 x tables (and their related division facts)

Please help and encourage your child to spend 5-10 minutes daily on these. Having instant recall of basic facts helps students to solve number problems more efficiently. We will also be exploring the language of geometry, for example naming 2D and 3D shapes, symmetry, turns, flips and rotations. Mathletics is a valuable resource that children can do at home to practise their skills and there are lots of curriculum based activities that support our teaching programmes.

Uniform

Please ensure that all pieces of clothing are clearly named. Make sure your child's name is in each uniform item, including sweatshirts and raincoats. Greenhithe School raincoats can be purchased through the school office, but will take 2 weeks for the order to come through.

Fitness and PE

Every day students take part in 10-15 minutes of fitness followed by a water and fruit break. This term we will be practising for cross-country and your child will need suitable running shoes to train in. Our training practises are Tuesday and Thursday.

Activity Fee

There is a \$35 activity fee per term, per child, you can pay this directly to the office or it can also be paid through internet banking. This activity fee covers the cost of trips and other extra-curricular activities. Please ensure that payments are kept up to date. School Bank Account Number: 12 3109 0011698 00 (Please put your child's name as a reference if paying direct into school bank account).

Important Dates:

Mother's Day Market : 7th and 8th May

Rippa Rugby 1st Tournament: Thursday 9th May Saver day Tuesday 14th May

Disco: Friday 10th May

Teacher Only Day: (school closed) Friday 31st May

Queen's Birthday: Monday 3rd June Public holiday

Cross country at Wainoni Park: Tuesday 4th June

Individual and class photos: Tuesday 11th June

Sibling photos: Tuesday 18th June

Rippa Rugby Tournament: (#2:) Thursday 20th June saver day Tuesday 25th June

Playhouse Theatre: Friday 21st June

Super cluster Cross country: Monday 24th June

Science Roadshow: Tuesday 25th June

Reports go home: Friday 28th June

Parent Interviews: Wednesday 3rd July, Thursday 4th July

Last day of Term 2 : Friday 5th July

Thank you for your continued support.

Middle Syndicate Teachers