



TRANSITION TO YEAR 3 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Grade 3 is an exciting and busy year. There are many opportunities and challenges ahead for your child.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT IN GRADE 3

- An immersion year in the sustainable village – where, aside from the core subjects and specialist subjects, learning centres around sustainability - looking after ourselves, other animals and the environment.
- Hands on cooking and gardening sessions.
- Daily fitness sessions, water bottles on tables and morning fruit time in the classroom.
- Through the Jump Rope for Heart Program - a commitment to raising funds for heart research and also for our 'sister' school in Tigray, Ethiopia as part of a unit of work on helping others.
- Gardening and cooking sessions –where children plant, tend, harvest, cook and eat the food they grow.
- Wrapper / waste free lunches where possible
- As village farmers, taking on extra responsibilities in the garden and in the care and welfare of the village animals.
- Hatching chickens in term 1 and hand raising a larger animal in term 3.
- A bigger play area- children can play on the oval & courts
- All children borrowing reading books directly from the library
- Homework = **in year 3** homework **IS** home reading, weekly spelling lists, set tables and the occasional open ended project.
- House Sports, Cross Country and Swimming Sports
- Nationwide testing (NAPLAN) in May .
- Planned excursions to Edendale Environmental Farm and Chesterfield Farm.

Under the SUSTAINABILITY banner units of work across the four terms include:

- Term 1 'We are Alive' & 'Living Things Change'
- Term 2 'Don't Trash the Earth' RETHINK, REDUCE REUSE, RECYCLE
- Term 3 'Healthy Eating ' with a focus on fruit, vegetables and dairy foods
- Term 4 'Helping Others and Volunteers'

WHAT TO SEND WITH YOUR CHILD ON THE FIRST DAY

- School hat
- Pencil case
- A box of tissues
- Water bottle – not frozen as it melts all over the tables.
- Fruit to have before recess – can be a piece of fruit or vegetable or fruit / vegetables chopped up in a container.
- Art smock
- Alternate foot wear– crocs or similar are perfect
- And of course food for recess and lunch in **named** containers.

Please keep in mind that we promote healthy eating choices so lollipops, chips, sweet biscuits etc are not encouraged or recommended! Of course, as parents, this is your choice, but we teach the children that these are sometimes not everyday foods.

The school provides **ALL** the supplies for your child. The **ONLY items we ask you to buy are a small pencil case and a box of tissues.** Please do not send along any extra coloured pencils, textas, highlighters or white out pens.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR YEAR 3

Home Reading – encourage reading for FUN from fiction as well as non-fiction books to improve general knowledge. Include a few books in the Christmas stocking? Join a local library?

Maths – Practise the times tables – knowing them all or as many as possible off by heart would be a fantastic start to year 3. Some children are also happy to continue to work on Mathematics during the holidays.

Play games like Boggle, Upwords, Scrabble and Monopoly for family fun and for the spelling and maths involved.

BUT remember it is a holiday – make it a relaxing one. If learning tables for instance make it a fun challenge for the whole family!

We look forward to working with you in the New Year! Happy holidays.

Julie, Jan, Jenny, Murray, Kim, Diane and Janet.

P.S NAME / LABEL everything clearly including lunch containers.
It's great to see the year3s with their reusable containers but they need to be named as do all items of clothing.

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SEWING JOB

A request for help early in the new year.
We need new chair bags – is there anyone who could take on this task for us? The chairs in each room are slightly different so we need a pattern made and then helpers to assist to make them. Fabric can be purchased in bulk. Please see Julie Kearney if you are able to help.

GARDENING CLEAN UP

After the holidays the garden will be in need of a big tidy up. If you can spare the odd hour here and there we would love to see you.

PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS & LIDS

Please collect these for us during the holidays – milk, fruit and any other plastic lids for recycled art.