

PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET - 2018

TEACHERS

Team Leader: Tony Muir - Grade 4TM

Anita Salems - Grade 4AS

Diane Kassiotis - Grade 4DK

Kirsten Brown - Grade 4KB

Geoff Zielin - Grade 4GZ

OSPS School Values -

***Respect, Integrity,
Excellence, Working Together & Resilience.***

Welcome to Year 4!

Our school day begins at 8:45am. It is essential that students arrive on time to ensure the day begins in a relaxed and organised manner.

- Listening and following instructions is essential in Year 4. Please reinforce this, by making it a priority at home.
- Please be aware we will be encouraging **and** expecting increasing levels of independence and responsibility from the children. This includes organisation of belongings, personal tubs, notes, notices and readers etc. Children should be packing and carrying their own bags to school.

MATHS

- Daily maths sessions allow children to develop mathematical concepts, practise and apply these concepts.
- Problem solving activities.
- Maths Invaders - 4 times a week. Children work on this program at their own level and develop their automatic response using the four processes.
- Mathletics - This is an on-line Maths Program which covers all areas of the Maths curriculum. The school values this program. We have registered and paid for the program and it is available for all children to work on at home as well as school. Accessing the Mathletics program at home is a great way for children to improve their skills.
- **Addition and subtraction facts, as well as multiplication and division tables** are extremely important so please help your child to learn these.

ENGLISH

Reading:

- Daily morning reading takes place at 8:45am.
- One scheduled Library visit per week to borrow and return, plus other times the Library will be open for Accelerated Reader borrowing.
- Accelerated Reader. Quizzes can be taken before school, or at suitable times during the day as well as in Library borrowing time.
- S.R.A. reading program.
- Comprehension activities.
- Literature Program.

We ask that the children read for at least 20mins each night and parents are to supervise this and sign in the reading diary.

Writing:

- Different text types taught e.g. recounts, information reports, narratives (stories), persuasive, various forms of poetry, explanation reports of 'How things work', etc.
- Editing skills are very important and will be taught.
- Computers are also used to publish final copies of work.
- **VCOP** was introduced into the classes in 2017, which focuses on **Vocabulary**, **Connective words and phrases**, **sentence Openers** and **Punctuation**. It also looks at children self-editing and creating goals for future writing.
- Regular punctuation and grammar activities.
- Handwriting - Regular class lessons on letter formation and joining techniques.
- Pen licences are awarded to students who display neat and legible hand-writing in Semester 2.

Spelling:

Children will have a list of words in their spelling and homework folders and are tested on these each Friday. Various levels of achievement are catered for.

These include:

- Commonly used words.
- Basic letter groups covered - eg 'oo', 'ar', 'ee', 'ight' words etc
- Problem solving of new and unusual words.
- Use of a dictionary and thesaurus.

Reading Eggspress Spelling program is used in the classroom to consolidate children's understanding of words and phonics.

Speaking and Listening:

- Basic listening skills - making eye contact, facing the speaker, active listening etc.
- Practise preparing and delivering short talks on a given topic.
- Clear speech - Pronounced correctly with appropriate volume and speed.
- Confidence in speaking to an audience is highly developed, especially during our Grade 4 production. **'The Knight at Dawn'**

GROUPS - WRITING & MATHS

- These groups occur twice weekly and with the added support provided by the school, we have 7 teachers to teach in these subjects. These smaller sized groups are to support, consolidate and extend children's learning at a more individualised level.

COMPUTERS

- Used as a tool for learning in many areas, e.g. Maths, English, etc.
- Skill development to use programs effectively, e.g. typing, Microsoft Word, Power Point.

CODING & ROBOTICS

- Will be introduced this year.
- One lesson per fortnight.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Themes cover the areas of Civics and Citizenship, Humanities, History & Science/Technology.

- Term 1 - Australia, You're Standing In It! - Geography.
- Term 2 - Our Changing Earth - Science.
- Term 3 - Australia: 'When Two Cultures Collide.' - History.
- Term 4 - Inventions That Changed The World - Science.

Events during the Year:

Term 1

- Melbourne City excursion - MCG & Eureka Tower (approximate cost \$30).

Term 2

- Fete - May 5
- Swimming 8 Day Program - 4th to 15th June (no swimming Mon Queens Birthday weekend, Thu 14th due to 5 / 6 Sport). New venue - GESAC.

Term 3

- Production '**The Knight at Dawn**' Early term 3 - date TBC

CAMP - CYC The Island www.cyc.org.au

- Term 3 - 6th - 10th August
- Approximate cost \$300.
- Further information will be provided early in Term 2.
- This is a terrific camp for children.
- If you can, please make sure your child has slept away from home successfully, before coming on camp.
- Please send back medical and dietary information forms ASAP once received.

Term 4

- Healthy Skills for Life.
- Technology incursion - yet to be confirmed.

OTHER: Ice Skating.

- Minimal cost.
- Dates yet to be confirmed.
- A very valuable activity for your child. Parent assistance is required and welcomed in the first few lessons to help children put on their ice skates.

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

- Art - Rochelle Hunt
- Japanese - Mami Martin & Sumiko Ranjitkumar.
- P.E. - Marcus Mooney
- Music - Lemone Meyer & Elaine Kan
- Music Group/Choir - Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30 in the Music Room.

YEAR 4 PRODUCTION - 'The Knight at Dawn'

Date - Early Term 3

***Note:** Parent assistance is most definitely required with this re: costumes and sets etc. Look out for the Production Helpers notice coming to you soon.*

SPORT

- Regular fitness sessions are conducted to develop the children's motor skills and improve their fitness.
- Swimming Program - All children are expected to attend the swimming program as it is now an essential part of the school curriculum for safety reasons. Please support us with this program, or if you have any questions, please speak to Year 4 Co-Ordinator Tony Muir.

HOMEWORK

The aims of homework tasks are to reinforce and to develop academic skills and to encourage good work habits.

Homework includes:

- Reading comprehension activity (based on Australia).
- Spelling Weekly Words - as listed in homework pockets.
- Mathletics - Assigned tasks x2 per week.
- Home reading - Children are expected to be reading for **20 minutes each night.**
- Please sign the reading diary after each session.
- Occasionally incomplete work may be sent home for finishing off.
- Projects may be set to be completed at home.

PREP BUDDIES

- Grade 4 children are allocated Prep buddies to assist them in their first year of Primary School. This will commence once the Preps have settled into their new school, class, teacher and routine and staff are able to match the children as best as possible.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR & CIVIC PRIDE

- Whole school focus on School Values and manners - Key Words - 'Please', 'Thank You', 'Excuse Me', 'Pardon'.
- Reinforcement at school of polite ways of behaving. Home support with this is essential as:
'A polite child at home is a polite child at school'.
- Class Rules - Discussed with the children.

UNIFORM

- Uniform is compulsory. **Parental support is essential.**
- Hats are compulsory in **Terms 1 & 2 until May 31 and all of Term 4.**
- No hat = **'Reading inside'** rule.
- Please provide a note if your child is not in uniform on a particular day.
- Jewellery - mostly not allowed. Only sleepers, ear studs are allowed and religious items, necklaces etc, (these must be worn under the t-shirt).
- Netball skirts are not a part of school uniform.
- Hair ties - Green, white or black only.
- Slippers or alternative footwear is required for indoor use.
- Roller shoes - not to be worn at school.

FETE - May 5

- Parental support is most definitely needed and appreciated. Further information will be sent closer to the date.

PUNCTUALITY

- Children need to be at school by 8:45 am at the latest to come inside, unpack and commence reading.
- Parental support is necessary with this.
- Please help your child to develop good life long habits by being punctual.

SICKNESS

- **Unwell children must be cared for at home until recovered.**
- Children who are unwell at school suffer unnecessarily and don't learn well. Children work in close contact with others and illnesses can be easily spread.
- Please send absence notes when your child returns to school.
- This is a government requirement that the staff at Oakleigh South Primary School are expected to ensure.

TISSUES

- Please send along 2 boxes of tissues for the children to share.

TOYS/MOBILE PHONES

- Please do not let your child bring expensive or inappropriate toys.
- Mobile phones **MUST** be signed in and signed out at the office. **This is a safety issue.**

RESILIENCE & SELF ESTEEM

'Able to bounce back from adversity or similar situations'

- All children need to experience success **AND** failure to achieve self-confidence.
- Children **must be allowed** to experience failure, disappointment and some adversity, in order to develop resilience and coping strategies as well as an ability to put things into perspective.
- Children who are not given the opportunity to experience the natural 'ups and downs' of life, or to be actively challenged can become overly fearful and anxious.
- Self-confidence comes from the experience of facing a variety of situations coping with either success, or difficulty.

PROBLEMS and CONCERNS

- Please come and see us re work concerns, everyday issues etc. Many problems can be investigated and smoothly resolved through parent/teacher communication.
- **Always bear in mind there may be more to the story than what your child has explained to you.**
- It is parents' natural reaction to protect their child. Having an open mind is very helpful about such issues. Always ask yourself 'What hasn't my child told me?' It is natural for children to only remember what is important to them, however there may be more issues involved.
- Do not let playground problems continue unresolved. Speak to your child's teacher. We **WILL** follow up and act on any issues of concern but it is not possible to support you and your child if we aren't informed of issues.
- Children will make mistakes in their decisions, judgement and behaviour, both other children to yours and possibly your own to others. This is a completely normal part of childhood. It is not a reflection of parenting skills. Please support us to encourage positive behaviours in all our children.
- Encourage and expect your child to approach the teacher with any concerns first. We have asked the children to do this. We may be able to resolve the problem much faster. Please support us in this regard.

- **NOTE:** Do not under any circumstances, directly approach other children in the yard to sort playground problems out. This is an extremely serious matter and almost always results in the situation becoming worse, rather than better.
- **PLEASE** allow the teachers, year level co-ordinator (Tony Muir), Assistant Principal (Nikki Virtuoso) or Ron Cantlon (Principal) to deal with such concerns.

SCHOOL & HOME COMMUNICATION

- Please download 'FlexiBuzz' and Qkr! to your Android or Apple phone
FlexiBuzz is the main way the school communicates with you. You must select the year levels which apply to your child.
 - Notifies you about weekly newsletters
 - Communicates important information
 - or last minute news with parents eg '*The bus will be late home from the Year 4 Camp*'.
- Newsletter - Is **accessible online** at <http://oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/> and via the link on FlexiBuzz. FlexiBuzz will alert you when each new edition is uploaded to the website.
- All of the year 4 notices are uploaded on the website.

EXCURSION PERMISSION FORMS

- Permission forms are now available via Qkr! Permission forms will pop up at the time of payment.
- Excursion information notes will be sent home, these are also available on the school website for download.

TEACHER EMAILS

muir.anthony.r@edumail.vic.gov.au
 salems.anita.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
 kassiotis.diane.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
 toole.kirsten.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
 zielin.geoffrey.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL 3's & 4's

Nikki Virtuoso
 virtuoso.nicole.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

NOTE: For **URGENT** matters, please phone the school direct on 9570-1016.

We look forward to your continued support and to a very happy and productive year working with your children.

Thank you for your support.

*Tony Muir (Year 4 Coordinator),
 Anita Salems, Di Kassiotis, Kirsten Brown & Geoff Zielin*

And a final request:



AMBULANCE!

Do YOU have 'Family Cover'?

OSPS strongly recommends this for the safety and security of your child.

In case of any emergency, the school IS REQUIRED to call an ambulance for your child's safety.

Thank you.