

3/4: Term 3 Overview 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term, it will be both a busy and exciting term. Mrs Nicky Grujovski will be on long service leave for the first four weeks of Term 3 and Mrs Linda Salerno will be on long service leave for the last four weeks of Term. Both teachers will be replaced by Ms Samantha Rovtar for these periods of time.

Processes and Procedures:

In the morning children put away their bags, change their readers and sit down to read independently or read aloud to a partner during the first ten minutes of the day. This gives teachers the opportunity to mark the roll, check diaries and collect notices. Please make every effort to ensure that your child is at school on time (by 9:00am) every day as habitual lateness causes your child to miss out on start of day information and learning.

Attendance:

During Term 3 a Punctuality Award and a Best Attendance Award will be issued each week to the grades who achieve the best attendance figures for the week.

Communication Processes:

If you need to contact your child's home group teacher please leave a message at the front office or write a message in the student diary and we will contact you as soon as possible. Teachers are available to have pre-arranged meetings in person when the need arises

Key Learning Areas:

The Math foci for grade 3/4 students is measuring and comparing length, mass and volume, multiplication and division and money. We will also revise fractions and begin decimal work. We will also continue to develop student's ability to tell the time to the minute.

The English focus for the grade 3/4 students this term is creative writing, recounts and information reports. Students will empower their vocabulary knowledge by investigating homonyms, synonyms, antonyms, homophones, suffixes and prefixes.

The Inquiry Unit "Australia On The Map" encompasses Geography and History Learning Areas and will focus on developing students' mental map of the world. It will develop their understanding of where we are in relation to the rest of the world by examining the major characteristics of Australia and Australia's neighbouring countries. Students will learn about representation of Australia as states and territories and Australia's major natural characteristics. Students will also develop knowledge of celebrations and commemorations, symbols and emblems important to Australians and others.

Home Learning Expectations:

Home work will continue to be a weekly expectation. There will be weekly spelling and maths based activities and nightly home reading. Your child will be expected to complete and submit their home learning by Friday every week. It is of vital importance for students to read daily. If a child reads for 10 minutes a day they are exposed to more words. The more words they read, the more capable a reader they become.

P.E.:

During term three the grade three and four students will be involved in some movement to music activities. Ball control skills will be further developed in games requiring continuous control of the ball, such as soccer and basketball. Hitting skills will be practiced and used in games of kanga cricket and hockey.

Sports:

In Term 3, our 3/4 students have the opportunity to participate in a basketball and a soccer tournament. The dates for these events are Friday 4th August- Basketball and Friday 25th August- Soccer.

Visual and Performing Arts:

The students create artworks using a variety of media in the areas of ceramics, textiles, modelling, drawing and construction. In Term 3, activities will concentrate on Threads & Textiles and Modelling. Linking to the 3/4 Inquiry unit of *'Australia on the Map'*, they will explore sculpture and weaving from the Tjanpi artists from central Australia and other related works from Australian indigenous artists. They identify and describe influences on their own work and the purpose for which various art pieces are created.

They will create free standing Australian animal sculptures from mixed media, circular weavings and clay tiles with floral emblems that represent Australian states and territories. The tiles will be displayed along with tiles made by all other year levels.

As these art activities can be quite messy, all children need to bring an art smock (an old shirt will do) to protect their school uniform. These need to be named and will be sent home for cleaning at the end of each term.

Italian:

This term in Italian, Year 3/4 students will be creating their own story based on *'Auito un topo!'*. Later in the term, they will be learning about tourism in Italy through the topic *'Andiamo in Italia'*. Communicative language activities will continue building on students' everyday conversations in Italian.

Uniform Expectations:

Our uniform is navy blue pants and a light blue top. Black shorts or black tracksuit/leggings are not part of our uniform and should not be worn to school.

Attendance:

You will have noticed on the mid-year report that an attendance data table was included to inform you of how absence from school affects your child's ability to make the most of educational opportunities.

How many days has your child missed this semester? (A semester is 2 full school terms)	
0-6	This is within normal range. A child with this attendance rate is able to take full advantage of the teaching and learning opportunities available to them.
7-10	This attendance rate is below average. A child with this attendance rate could miss over 1 year of schooling between Prep and Yr 10.
11-20	This is a poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss out on up to 2 years of schooling between Prep and Yr 10.
20+	This is a very poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss over 2.5 years of schooling between Prep and Yr 10.

There is a direct link between school attendance and achievement later in life. Poor attendance patterns in the early years lead to poor patterns of attendance throughout the school years. Poor attendance makes it difficult to form positive relationships with peers.

Please provide an explanation for every day that your child is not at school and remember that school attendance is not only mandatory, but also a crucial factor in enabling your child to make the most of learning opportunities.

School Concert:

Our annual school concert will be held on Thursday 7th September at the Preston Town Hall. Further details will be sent home regarding our performance, costumes or clothing to be worn etc, closer to the event.

Kind regards,

Sue Gavin

Nicky Grujovski

Linda Salerno

Samantha Rovtar