

Friday, 30 January 2021



Dear Families,

Welcome to M7. This year the Year 3/4 students in M7 and R12 will be working closely across multiple curriculum areas. We are so excited to be working with this fantastic bunch of Year 3s and 4s and cannot wait to see all we will be able to accomplish over the year.

Students have had a strong start already. They are showing enthusiasm for learning as well as their academic capabilities in the pre-assessment our classes have undertaken thus far. We have begun the year with a focus on learning mindsets and school values, and it seems as though the group will work together quite cohesively.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

Our learning programme involves many facets, concentrating on literacy and numeracy. In English, students will focus on persuasive writing and strategies to support reading comprehension. In maths, we will be investigating place value and number, practising a variety of problem solving strategies and building fluency. The HASS curriculum is made up of 3 areas that include history, geography and civics & citizenship. We will begin by investigating change over time. In technologies, we will be refining student understanding of ethical use of technologies as well as cyber safety with regard to usernames and passwords.

SPECIALIST LESSONS

Students will have 5 specialist lessons each week: 1 Italian lesson with Signora Clarke, 2 science lessons with Mr. Williams and 2 Health & PE lessons with Mr. Thom.

HOMEWORK

As students commence their primary years of schooling, increased independence with learning is expected. Our Year 3/4 cohort will be assigned homework tasks on a weekly basis. These are optional but providing your child with a quiet workspace and allocated homework time will support them in building individual responsibility and study skills. Each week, students will be given 20 minutes of reading daily, 3 spelling tasks and a maths task. All homework is due at the end of the week, first thing Friday morning, and will be rewarded through our classroom economy programs.

CLASSROOM READING

As you know, reading is so important with regard to student learning. Each class will have a weekly library session, and we also have a selection of reading materials in our class libraries. These are for use only at school, but on occasion, they do find their way home with students. If this should happen, please send them back to school. We won't ask questions or get upset as we would just like them returned.

This year our classes will also be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge, and each student will be expected to complete the challenge by reading 12 books before the end of August. Your child's form will be pasted at the back of their homework book so that reading can be added at home or school.

We have
Learners
Among US!

Term 1 Dates

9/2
Acquaintance Night
Governing Council

22/2
Pupil Free Day

2/3
House Captain Elections

8/3
Adelaide Cup
Public Holiday

15/3 – 18/3
3-Way Conferences

16/3
Governing Council

18/3
National Day Against
Bullying & Violence
Ride to School Day

21/3
Harmony Day

26/3
Sports Day
(9am-3pm)

1/4
Pupil Free Day
2/4 – 5/4
Good Fri & Easter Mon
Public Holidays

7/4
SAPSASA Lacrosse
Carnival

Fridays – Wk 3/6/8/11
Assembly
(9am)

9/4
Last Day of Term
(2pm finish)

CLASS CASH

Over the past few years, class cash has been a highlight for students. This year the Year 3/4 classes will be setting up a classroom economy system for the dual purpose of rewarding positive choices as well as teaching students some of the basics of economics as described in the mathematics curriculum. Students earn cash for good behaviour, teacher compliments, return of homework, prompt return of notes and class jobs. At the end of each term, a class auction will be held where students will be able to bid on small items. Although teachers have begun compiling a collection of items to be included, donations of used board games, stationary and other high interest knick knacks would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to send donations in with your child if you have a clean out around the house.

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY

Our classes will be using Seesaw as our primary mode of communication between school and home. Students will practise how to reflect on learning by posting photos and attaching captions that will then be shared with families. Please ask your child about their posts as school day conversation starters.

Chromebooks will be provided to all students to support learning. Each student will have an associated email address and Google Drive account which can be accessed at home in order to continue on with tasks as well as share learning with family members. Students will also be given Reading Eggs, Dreamscape, Prodigy and Minecraft accounts that can be accessed at home.

If families have a secondhand set of headphones or mouse sitting around the house or office, could your child bring them to school for use during the year? Use of attachments with Chromebooks is OPTIONAL but are of benefit with Reading Eggs and Minecraft in particular.

ORGANISATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

As students get older, it is especially important that responsibility is gradually transferred from adult to child as a way to build independence. Taking responsibility for personal property, school notes, punctuality and regular attendance are essential for learning so these will be focus skills throughout the school year. We would like to ask that students bring their own box of coloured pencils to use in the classroom. Although other class supplies are provided, we have found that students take pride and care with coloured pencils they own.

School uniforms and shoes appropriate for physical activity must be worn everyday. School hats will be required each day during terms 1 and 4 as well as term 2 and 3 days where the UV rating is over 3.

We would love to stay in regular contact with families. Seesaw is best for us, but we can also be contacted at school on (08) 8337 1411. (Please leave a message with the front office, and your call will be returned outside of lesson times.) We look forward to meeting families at Acquaintance Night but will save discussions about individual student progress for 3-Way Conferences later in the term.



Kind regards,
Jess Evans, Jason Coleman and Carrie Jonker

**We have
Friends
Among Us!**

M7 & R12 Staff Team

Jess Evans (M-Th)
Jason Coleman (Fri)
M7 Class Teachers

Carrie Jonker
R12 Class Teacher

Rachel Clarke
Languages - Italian

Richard Thom
PE & Health

Jamie Williams
Science

Sudesh Chawla
Aïye (Alice) Fan
1st Language
(Hindi, Punjabi, Mandarin)

Melissa Ciufoli
EALD

Annette Coscia
Quicksmart

Phyllis Ipseftel
Resource Centre

Antonella Nitz
M7 Classroom Support

Annette Barrone
R12 Classroom Support