



# Cheltenham East Primary School

## TERM 1, 2023 NEWSLETTER



Year 3/4 Team:

Julie Beaton & Libby McConchie, Jason Crebbin & Robyn Apostolopoulos, Rebecca Crawford, Stacey Savva and Sarah Lazzaro

Welcome to Year 3/4 and 2023!

We have been delighted with how the children have already settled into their new classes. We have all enjoyed getting to know each other through our Kindness Week activities.

Each term, you will receive a newsletter outlining information about the term ahead. Our main form of parent communication will be via Dojo. Whilst we endeavour to get back to you in a timely manner, please understand that we are often unable to check these messages until after school hours. **If you need an important message to be passed onto your child we ask that you communicate this via the office.**

We look forward to meeting as many families as possible during our Welcome to School mornings on either Monday 6 or Friday 10 February. Classrooms will be open from 8.50—9.30am on each of these days. If you are unable to make these dates, but feel you have necessary information to communicate to your child's teacher, there will be an opportunity to schedule a meeting during our Getting to Know You sessions in weeks 5 & 6. Keep an eye out on Dojo regarding how to schedule an appointment.

We look forward to getting to know your children and to a wonderful year ahead.

From your 3/4 teaching team,

Julie & Libby, Robyn & Jason, Rebecca, Stacey and Sarah

### SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

Specialist	3/4A Julie/ Libby	3/4B Robyn / Jason	3/4C Bec	3/4D Stacey	3/4E Sarah
<b>Music</b> (Sue Digby)	Tues.	Wed.	Tues.	Wed.	Wed.
<b>Italian</b> (Stella Mondy)	Wed.	Wed.	Tues.	Wed.	Tues.
<b>Library</b> (class teacher)	Thurs.	Thurs.	Thurs.	Thurs.	Thurs.
<b>Art</b> (Suz Reid)	Thurs.	Thurs.	Wed.	Wed.	Wed.
<b>PE</b> (Bec Robinson)	Wed.	Wed.	Wed.	Mon.	Mon.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

30/1: First day Term 1 (Yrs 1-6)  
6/2: Welcome to School Week (Open classrooms—Monday and Friday)  
17/2: Working Bee (Sunday)  
21/2: Whole School Photos  
13/3: Labour Day Public Holiday  
15-27/3: NAPLAN Year 3s  
6/4: Final Day Term 1  
7/4: Good Friday



### HOMEWORK

Homework will be provided weekly for all Year 3 and 4 students. Generally, each week will see Mathletics tasks assigned on a Monday and nightly reading routines expected. From time-to-time there will also be tasks provided to consolidate classroom learning. e.g. Writing / Handwriting / English Orthography.

This year, we will reduce the monitoring of homework completion, to cater to the various family views and the research around the efficacy of homework. Of course, we are more than happy to review work, answer questions, and provide support to students as needed, however the shift is that we will no longer be chasing missing homework as this has little to no benefit. (Some interesting ideas on HW: <https://tinyurl.com/ProblemsOfHomework>).

#### Things you can do at home that will support your child's learning:

- **Read!** Read as much and as often as you can. Read aloud. Be read to. Share a book. Compare books. Aim for a minimum of 15 minutes every night.
- **Maths.** Practice multiplication tables, working through in order of [2x, 4x, 8x], then [3x, 6x, 12x], then [5x and 10x], linking to 9x and 11x. Which leaves 7x last (it doesn't link easily to other tables, but you've already covered most of them by this stage! Eg 2x7, 4x7, and 8x7 from the first set).
- **Challenge.** Students thrive with challenge, but struggle with failure. They only learn to manage adversity by surviving failure. Give them opportunities to fail safely. Eg, cook dinner (almost) on their own, make the shopping list for the week, plan and coordinate an outing with a friend.

**Please remember to keep updated with CEPS information using Website: <http://www.cheltenhameast.vic.edu.au> and Classroom Dojo Payments and permission slips are accessed through Sentral.**

Our rolls are legal documents therefore we must be accountable for any absences. Should your child be absent without the school being notified you will automatically receive a text message alerting you to contact the school. Please assist by informing the school through the Sentral portal if your child needs to be away.

**Early Pick Up:** If you need to pick up your child early please collect them from the office area and be sure to sign them out.

## ENGLISH

### **Reading and Viewing**

Students will engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment and participate in activities to improve their ability to decode and comprehend texts. They will be explicitly taught to visualise, activate their prior knowledge, find the main idea, locate facts and details, make predictions and to distinguish between fact and opinion. They will develop their reading fluency and be exposed to new language to expand their vocabulary.

### **Writing**

Students will focus on the typical structure of persuasive text types. They will use language features to create coherence and strengthen their arguments. They will continue to develop their understanding of grammar, select vocabulary from a range of resources and use accurate spelling and punctuation. They will improve their skills to edit their work to clarify meaning. As part of our study of English Orthography, students will investigate how the written word works.

### **Speaking and Listening**

Through a range of activities, across all areas of the curriculum, students will listen for key points in discussions. They will contribute actively to class and group conversations, varying language according to context. Using our class novel as a springboard, students will be encouraged to share and justify their thoughts and ideas about characters and events.

## CEPS Values & Wellbeing

This term, the value our school is focusing on is COURTESY. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore various skills through age appropriate activities. Friday afternoon assembly awards will be given to children leading by example. Parents of award recipients will be notified by the classroom teacher via Dojo prior to Friday's assembly.

Wellbeing sessions will be focused around the Resilience Project. Students will complete activities concentrating on:

- empathy
- gratitude
- mindfulness
- emotional literacy



When preparing your child's lunchbox, please avoid nuts and nut products as we have children with allergies across the school.  
Thank you

## MATHS

In Mathematics this term, we are returning to rich, open, hands-on learning tasks, designed in such a way as to be both accessible and challenging for all involved. A big focus of our work is to develop students' thinking; to challenge them to make connections, seek challenges, justify their reasoning, and most importantly, to find joy in 'the struggle' of trying to solve a problem. With a composite Year 3 and 4 cohort, students are supported to work with a variety of classmates and to build their communication and rationalising skills in a meaningful way.

Our mathematics lessons will have a strong emphasis on Number and Algebra topics early in the year, with an exploration of Measurement and Probability sprinkled throughout. An emphasis on student work samples and formative assessments (using tests to help students learn) will occur in classrooms, as we increase student autonomy and independence in their mathematics learning.

At home, students are encouraged to develop their speed and accuracy when recalling common addition and multiplication facts. They will have access to electronic systems, such as Mathletics and Essential Assessment, to assist this learning.

## Humanities

Our Humanities inquiry focus question this term is, "What makes a great community?" Students will investigate the importance of rules and laws, whilst exploring the difference between the two. Students will consider the purpose of creating rules for groups and how rules and laws affect them. Students will also explore how individuals participate in their community, cultural diversity and how belonging to different groups can shape personal identity.

## Science

This term we are investigating the life-cycle of plastics, exploring its use in packaging, and considering alternative more sustainable materials. Students will develop skills to ask and answer questions meaningfully, how to research a topic to better understand it, and be creative in producing a packaging solution without the use of plastic.

If you have any unusual, creative, unique, or interesting packaging solutions (with or without plastic) at home, it would be great to bring this into school in Week 3 (starting 6th of Feb) to share with the class.

