



# Wheeler Heights Public School

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## Stage 2 Newsletter – 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to 2024! We are all excited for the year ahead with our Year 3 and 4 students.

### Overview of the 2024 Curriculum:

#### **English**

Students in Stage 2 study 5 week long units of work which align to the NSW Department of Education scope & sequences. The units are structured around 2 'components' that support cumulative, explicit and systematic teaching:

Component A (foundational literacy skills)

Component B (conceptual understandings of subject English)

These units exemplify the importance of learning about and enjoying literature through the study of quality texts, as well as support teachers to identify, plan for and teach 'connected content' in ways that reflect the latest research.

#### **Mathematics**

Stage 2 mathematics units have a duration of 2 weeks. They aim to:

- make connections within and between mathematical concepts including making connections to real-life experiences.
- highlight and reinforce the role of working mathematically and student reasoning.
- include rich mathematical tasks, resources and opportunities for assessment and differentiation.
- address all syllabus outcomes for Stage 2.

Students will also engage in stage based, differentiated maths groups each week. The content of these groups will initially focus on developing student's multiplicative strategies.

#### **History and Geography**

During semester 1, students will investigate their local community, how it has changed over the years and who contributed to its development over time. They will undertake the historical inquiry process to investigate the developments, events and people that have shaped their community. In semester 2, students will learn about different climate zones within Australia and compare those to our neighbouring countries. They will evaluate the impact of climate on the settlement patterns of particular areas and how it influences the daily lives of the people who live there. Students will learn about the significance of "place" to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and consider how feelings and perceptions for a special place influence the actions of a community to protect the environment.

#### **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)**

The personal development and health lessons this term will focus on health, wellbeing and relationships, in particular conflict resolution. In physical education, students are participating in weekly sport lessons run by Got Game, their classroom teacher and during PSSA/school sport.

#### **Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)**

Students will be developing their understanding of visual arts, drama, music and dance. Students will rotate through each activity throughout the duration of the year.

#### **Sports Uniform**

Tuesday (Got Game PE)

Friday

#### **Library Borrowing**

3J - Tuesday

3M - Tuesday

3/4W - Monday

4C - Monday

4M - Monday

## **Homework**

Each child will continue to be encouraged to read for at least 20 minutes a night. This should include a mix of reading independently and reading with a parent or guardian. The green reading journal should be completed and signed by a parent or guardian. Please bring this in each Friday for the class teacher to check. If you would like your child to do additional activities, please engage with the online learning program provided by the Department of Education. <https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/guided-learning-packages>

## **Science**

Miss Earl will be teaching all Stage 2 science lessons this year and will focus on a different strand of the science syllabus each term. During Term 1, students will describe various agricultural processes used to create food and fibre products. In Term 2, students investigate digital technology and common forms of energy such as light and heat. In Term 3, students explore how material changes when adding or removing heat. During Term 4, students identify changes to the Earth's surface over time and discuss the impact of human actions.

## **Information Technology**

Students will continue to develop IT skills as they use their laptops in a variety of lessons. Students will progress and develop their skills in Google and Microsoft programs as well as focus on researching and paraphrasing internet content.

## **Library**

Students attend weekly library lessons with Mrs Westwood. Please encourage your child to borrow, READ and return books on a weekly basis. We strongly encourage all students to take part in the Premier's Reading Challenge later this year. We will provide further details as they become available.

## **Afternoon Sport / PSSA**

Summer PSSA will run from Term 1 Weeks 6-8, Term 3 Weeks 9-10, Term 4 Weeks 1-4 . The competition will run from 12:45-2:20, with all students back at school by 3:15pm. Non-PSSA students will participate in sporting activities at school.

## **Camp**

Year 4 students are planning to attend our 3 day, 2 night excursion at Milson Island in Term 4. More information about camp will be distributed in term 3.

## **Communication**

Please check the fortnightly school newsletter for upcoming events and ensure you are linked to the correct stage, class and extracurricular groups on Flexischools. A class parent will be allocated as soon as possible to pass on group messages from teachers to parents throughout the year.

All absences must be explained within 7 days of the first absence, either in writing, through the Flexischools app or by phone to the office. Should you require a meeting with your child's teacher, please contact the school by phone or email to organise a time.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your child and the school.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Peta Walsh (3/4W Class Teacher and Stage 2 Assistant Principal)

Mr Mitchell Jeffery (3J Class Teacher)

Miss Emily Maple-Ellams (3M Class Teacher )

Miss Karla Mok (4M Class Teacher )

Miss Kirsty Crichton (4C Class Teacher).