



Sacred Heart Parish School

SANDRINGHAM

YEAR 4

Term 3 Overview

The teamwork and collaboration in the move to the Hall and setting up our new learning space was outstanding. Term 3 is going to be chock full of learning and fun as we combine to make one big happy class group. Please feel free to pop in before or after school to see the amazing space we have created during the building program.

LITERACY

We have continued to study our class novel, Kensuke's Kingdom and are enjoying engaging in the OCHRE resources for it. It has been great to get deeper into the story and see the development of the plot and characters. We have also begun the persuasive writing aspect and are delving into the pros and cons of deforestation and caring for the environment. We highly recommend that the children listen to the novel in audiobook form. It would really help them to understand what we are reading in class if they are familiar with the story. There is also some very rich vocabulary that needs exploring too. Here is the link again...

<https://soundcloud.com/harpercollinspublishers/kensukes-kingdom-written-by>

Students can read along or just listen. It doesn't matter if they get ahead, or listen to the book once or ten times. (Chapter 7 currently). Any exposure is better than none.

We are looking at all aspects of literacy; morphology, vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and focusing on sentence level writing to create complex and expressive sentences. In literature we are developing our understanding of the persuasive techniques used to engage a reader within text-level reading and writing.

Spelling Mastery lessons will continue daily.

MATHS

Our Maths this term is focusing on multiplication and division, and in week six, we will move on to measurement. While we intensely focus on these number skills, we hope that you will encourage your child to develop their rapid recall of multiplication and division facts through regular homework

practice and games. Miss Donnelly, our Maths Leader, has set us up with a new initiative to develop our number fluency. The app is called Times Tables Rock Stars, and there will be an explanatory note coming home with the information. Our hope is that they will do 3 minutes of practice on the app 3-4 nights a week; that's correct, only 3 minutes, but often like Studyladder, there is an opportunity to earn coins and use them to upgrade avatars, etc. Teachers can monitor progress as well, and we will be doing it 3-4 times a week at school too. Please make sure it is 3 minutes of number practice before they spend time spending coins.

In measurement we will be looking at comparing length on varying scales, measuring and comparing mass, area, perimeter, capacity, and reading a thermometer. Another hands-on but fun exploration and development of maths knowledge.

TOPIC

As students transition to mastering Reading to Learn skills, as opposed to Learning to Read; they will further explore the topic of 'It's a Matter of State'. This exploration will be integrated into our Reading to Learn lessons, as part of our weekly topic sessions. They will focus on understanding the concepts of Matter, natural, processed and composite materials. We will also investigate properties of matter such as whether they are waterproof or absorbent and how different forms of matter suit different purposes. The students will learn that materials are chosen for specific purposes based on their properties. They learn how First Nations Peoples of Australia use their long-standing scientific knowledge of the properties of materials to select and use natural materials available in their Country/Place for many different purposes. Addressing the issue of sustainability, students explore how materials can be repurposed once they are no longer needed and think deeply about why this is important. This will be an engaging and fun hands-on unit with experiments and investigations galore and it links to the sustainability theme of our novel and the protection of flora and fauna.

RELIGION

This term is the long awaited event of First Eucharist for many of our students. We will explore and discuss the role of the Exodus story and the Jewish tradition of Passover and how this links to our own tradition of the Eucharist in our Mass. We have our excursion to the **Jewish Museum on Thursday August 1st**, a retreat day and then the night itself on Thursday August 22nd. We also hope to explore the role of bread in many cultures and why this is chosen as the symbol used predominantly in the Eucharist and doing some baking ourselves.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

We are continuing to work on the Gender Based Violence unit, becoming familiar with what is and isn't acceptable behaviours, exploring the idea of respect and developing a gender-friendly environment. Moving onto our unit on Help Seeking where we will develop our skills at identifying how big a problem is and working out what resources we have available to us in various situations to independently tackle issues that may be faced in day to day life as opposed to big issues that we need other to support us.

HOMEWORK *(a quick reminder from our school policy)*

Rationale:

- Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.

We endeavour to distribute the homework on a Monday and it is due the following Monday, occasionally we modify this to adapt to changing circumstances but each sheet will have its due date clearly shown. Each week we provide a Maths task to compliment what we are covering in class and we will also be monitoring the Timestables Rock Stars. Taking an opportunity to listen to your child read aloud is a great way to understand where they are at and to discuss what they are reading. All oral practice is of benefit. Independent reading at night before bed can also be a great way to wind down before sleep. A reading log will be drawn up in their homework book for the students to record the title of the book they are reading and which pages they read/how long they read.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is paramount and we highly value the connection between home and school. Please remember to communicate with us (via email or in person) if there is any issue. We understand family life can get busy; especially fitting homework around sporting and other commitments. Please remember to let us know and leave a simple note in the homework book will suffice as a reminder that we have communicated with each other. Please feel free to reach out to us via email or during pick-up/drop-off times, for any questions or concerns.

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Reminders:

August 1st- Excursion to the Jewish Museum

August 22nd- Eucharist

Please keep an eye out for upcoming emails regarding Term 4's The Summit Camp in October over the coming weeks.