



MEET THE TEACHER

Stage 3 2021

Welcome back to the new school year! Due to Covid restrictions our normal Meet-The-Teacher program will not take place in its usual form. Instead here is some useful information about organisation in Stage 3.

STAFF:

- Assistant Principal/Stage 3 Supervisor/ 6H Teacher – Mr Matthew Hyslop
- 6MW Teachers: Mrs Lena Maiden & Mrs Alison Woodgate
- 6N Teacher: Mr Alan Nicolle
- 5C Teacher: Miss Elissa Charlton
- 5D Teacher: Miss Amy Deathe
- 5L Teacher: Ms Diana Lloyd

ENGLISH: Students will be engaged in quality literature throughout the year. Several texts will be used each term to study in depth, where specific reading strategies will be taught. Other texts will be chosen to study for specific learning purposes related to History and Science themes. There will also be a focus on teaching creative writing, grammar, punctuation, handwriting, and speaking and listening.

New spelling words are given out each week linked to homework. They will complete other spelling activities in class. A spelling test will be take place in class each week to test student understanding and progress.

MATHEMATICS: Students will be engaged in daily mathematics lessons equitably covering the strands of number/algebra, measurement, and statistics/probability. The school's Back to Front Maths program will continue to be our main focus in mathematics. Mathematics homework will be set for students each week. Mathletics will be used to consolidate mathematical concepts at home and at school.

HISTORY: This semester we will be studying Australia as a Nation. Students will study the key figures that led to Australia's Federation including British and American influences on our system of law and government. Students will examine the experiences of democracy and citizenship, including the contribution, status and rights of Aboriginal peoples, migrants, women and children.

GEOGRAPHY: In the second semester we will be studying Factors That Shape Places. Students will investigate how people change the natural environment in Australia and other places around the world. They will explore how the environment influences the human characteristics of places. We will examine the impact of bushfires on Australia and propose ways people can reduce the impact of bushfires in the future.

SCIENCE

Classe will study a different unit of work in Science each semester covering the content areas of Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth & Space, and/or Physical Sciences.

PD/H/PE: Students in Stage 3 will be focusing on our Wellbeing program this year. Road Safety, Decision Making, Nutrition, Active Lifestyle, Child Protection, Interpersonal Relationships, and Safe Living will be explored throughout the year. PE sessions will be conducted at various times during each week.

SPORT: Stage 3 sport will be on Friday. We will be entering in PSSA Gala days throughout the year. These should ensure students get a chance to play a team sport in a competitive environment, if they so wish. We will reserve the right to restrict students on how many teams/ gala days they can be involved in if we need to ensure some get a chance to represent the school at-least once.

There are some opportunities for some outstanding sporting students to trial for various PSSA/Sydney West representative teams. These are invitation only and are for elite students only. The representative teams are almost all for an open PSSA team (u12/13's) except for Rugby league which also has an U'11 representative pathway. We will put measures in place such as in-school trials to screen for talent. This is all not to be confused with swimming, cross country, and athletics which by its nature has a much more streamlined process of selection for a wider array of ages via our school carnivals.

LIBRARY: The students visit the library each week to borrow books. Your class teacher will inform you as to your child's specific day.

TECHNOLOGY: Students will have access to computers/tablets each week. A code of conduct will be discussed and agreed with students ensuring appropriate use of technology. They will have access to Mathletics and Literacy Pro.

SCRIPTURE: Scheduled for Thursday middle session. If you have not indicated your child's religion they will attend a non-scripture class supervised by a teacher. If you would like your child to attend a certain Scripture class please advise the office.

ASSEMBLY: currently there are restrictions on holding assemblies. More information to follow.

GARDEN: Stage 3 are scheduled to have weekly lessons in Term 2 involving our school garden. We will be maintaining the garden as well as using the produce for cooking.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be set on a weekly basis. Home reading is a vital part of homework, and these sessions are important to your child's development. Students are encouraged to read suitable books of their choice. There will also be public speaking activities to be written and rehearsed at home.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: Please ensure your child is punctual. School starts promptly each morning at 9.10am. Please ensure that your child arrives well before the morning bell and is ready to go into the class with their teacher. Children are often unsettled when they arrive late and miss out on important information and learning. Arriving late also causes disruption to the teacher and other students.

Absences:

- The school must be given an explanation from a parent/guardian for all absences.
- Extended leave requests: if the leave is for more than 5 consecutive days you will need the Principal's approval. If there is a request for leave of more than 20 days the school must be provided with an itinerary. If in doubt, ask at the office as they can answer questions and provide you with the necessary forms.

If your child is suffering from a communicable illness please keep your child home until he/she is completely recovered.

Please provide written instruction if it is required that medication be taken during school hours. Any such medication can only be administered by school staff if it is in its original packaging.

FOOD: Healthy food and drinks (particularly water) are greatly encouraged at school. (Lunch boxes, drink bottles and other personal items should be clearly labeled). Students will be participating in the 'Crunch 'N' Sip' program, where they will have the opportunity to have a drink of water and a small amount of fruit or vegetable during the morning session. Please ensure fruit or vegetables are cut up and placed in a small container or plastic bag and, if messy, please send a plastic fork to eat with.

BIRTHDAYS: Students are not permitted under the current restriction to share food and can not bring in items of food for birthday's.

DONATIONS: Some students have brought in items to be used in the classroom. Any donations throughout the year are appreciated! We are always in need of hand soap, tissues, paper towel, wipes, old magazines, newspapers and white board markers.

COMMUNICATION/COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES: If an issue arises your first 'port of call' is always your child's teacher. In many instances a note to your child's teacher is appropriate but if you feel it necessary please do feel free to phone the school and seek an over the phone chat.

Face to face meetings can be arranged for major issues and this will include completing paper-work at the front office, under current Covid-safe practices.

Stage 3 will be using Google-Classroom as our major communication tool for school to home.

SOCIAL MEDIA/MOBILE PHONES: We ask that students under the age of 13 do not have personal social media accounts as these are often the source of unnecessary issues after school, and they can put such young children at risk. *FYI The major social media outlets such as facebook, twitter, instagram etc have policies that do not allow children under the age of 13 to have such social media accounts.* In addition, students are not permitted to have mobile phones during school hours. These must be handed in at the beginning of the day.

NAPLAN FOR YEAR 5: On-line NAPLAN testing is scheduled for Tuesday 11th to Friday 21st May.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL: We will provide Year 6 students with an Expression of Interest Form on the 10th of March which indicates your preference of high school for 2022. These MUST be completed and returned to the school by the 19th March. Please be aware that your child's local high school is based on your address and so you will need to make an application if you wish your child to attend a school 'out of area'.

YEAR 6 PARENT GROUP

We will need parent volunteers to help out for Year 6 Farewell decorating and/or the Year 6 Yearbook. Please contact Mrs Maiden if you'd like to get involved.

STAGE 3 CANBERRA TRIP: Wednesday 2nd June to Friday 4th June

This year we are scheduled to go to Canberra in line with our studies in History; Australia as a Nation. More information will follow shortly.

Stage 3 Teachers,

Surveyors Creek Public School
Phone: 47379571
"From each their best"