



No. 4314

Chatham Primary School

Weybridge Street, Surrey Hills Victoria 3127

Telephone: (03) 9830 1933

Email: chatham.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: chathamps.vic.edu.au

Year 3/4 Newsletter Term 1 2024

Dear Year 3/4 Parents and Carers,

Thank you, everyone, for your support as your children have commenced Year 3 and 4. We have had a wonderful time getting to know each other and settling into our daily routine. Aligned with the School Strategic Plan, we have a strong focus across Achievement, Wellbeing and Engagement. Consistent with this, below is an outline of the events and curriculum for Term 1, as well as some general reminders.

Events

Date	Event	Notes
Monday 12th February	First Whole-School Assembly	First whole-school Assembly for 2024, held in the School Hall from 9:05am.
Monday 12th February	Parent-Teacher Discussions	10-minute Parent-Teacher Discussion with the Classroom Teacher.
Tuesday 13th February	Parent-Teacher Discussions	10-minute Parent-Teacher Discussion with the Classroom Teacher.
Tuesday 27th February	Science Incursion Mad About Science: Heat and Energy	Students will explore the properties of heat and other energies in a fun way. They will produce useful heat energy in a multitude of ways, including through friction, motion, electrically and chemically. They will also transfer heat through conduction, measure it and explore the amazing ways in which heat can generate change.
Tuesday 27th February	Year 3/4 Parent Information Session	This session will be held from 4:00pm-5:00pm in the 3/4R classroom.
Monday 11th March	Labour Day Public Holiday	Public Holiday – school closed.
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of Term 1	2:30pm school finish for the last day of term.
Friday 29th March	Good Friday Public Holiday	Public Holiday – school closed.

Morning Routine

When the 8:50am music plays, students are expected to line-up at the allocated Year 3/4 line area near the School Hall, before going up to the classroom. Once inside, students will put their bags away and get settled to start the day.

English: Reading

Students in Year 3/4 are developing their skills in reading independently and are expected to continue reading daily at home. We encourage students to source books from the School Library, Council Libraries and from home. There are also books available in the classroom.

It is essential that all students continue regular home reading (also a weekly requirement of Homework). Parents and carers are asked to support their child by keeping a record of this reading in the log provided.

Reading in the form of Independent, Shared and Guided Reading will continue in the classroom, to further develop students' comprehension and prediction skills.

English: Handwriting

Students in Year 3 will begin to join their letters later this year. This writing can take time to learn and can cause frustration at times. At the start, they can find it slower and their writing can look untidy. Formal writing sessions will focus on pencil grip and the various types of joins, and also students' skills in fluency and speed.

Students who are in Year 4 are expected to write in neat, joined handwriting by the end of Year 4. Students will be tested in order to gain their 'P-Plate' (probationary period) and then Pen Licence throughout the year. Please ensure your child practises their neat, joined handwriting at home and within homework tasks.

Mathematics

A positive attitude to Mathematics is vital. We continue to use concrete materials to help make sense of the way our number system works.

In Year 3, Mathematics becomes more formal. Students will begin to use large numbers into the 1,000s. By the end of the year, students will develop their recall of the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 multiplication tables and number facts to 20. The aim is to make number facts automatic and a tool the students can use throughout their life. The 'Mighty Mentals' workbook supports the learning of automatic number facts. In addition, our students have access to 'Mathletics', <www.mathletics.com.au>, a program designed to reinforce Mathematics skills across all areas of the Mathematics curriculum. All students have their own password in the back of their homework books. Students are encouraged to log on at home to practise these vital number skills.

In Year 4, it is expected that all students will learn their multiplication tables up to 10x10 and read time on an analogue clock to the nearest minute. It is a great idea to encourage your child to wear their own analogue watch. We will have a weekly focus on multiplication tables to help students consolidate their automaticity skills. Students need to continue developing fluency in all areas of Number. This includes the memorisation of number facts such as doubles, near doubles, adding from 9, rounding, estimation and also having the confidence and ability to manipulate numbers.

It is important that students are exposed to as much real-life Mathematics at home as possible, such as experiences with money (including calculating change), measuring ingredients and using fractions in cooking, telling the time and playing Mathematics games, e.g. Monopoly, Yahtzee, Scrabble (adding up the score as you go) and card games. When you are in the car together, it's a great opportunity for a quick multiplication table quiz – you might like to be quizzed too!

Concept Topic

In Term 1, we will be exploring Physical Science with a focus on heat and its effects on solids and liquids, and begin to develop an understanding of energy flows through simple systems.

Wellbeing

In class, we have been establishing expectations to create positive learning and play environments for everyone. Students have been learning to always 'Be Safe, Be Fair and Be Kind'. We look forward to continuing 'The Resilience Project' program, to further develop our students' sense of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness.

Homework

Homework is a weekly task. Students are expected to read for at least 15 minutes each day at home. To help your children continue to develop their fluency and expression, please listen to them read aloud at least once per week. Homework will be collected on a Friday and handed out on a Monday. It is expected that students will allocate time throughout their week to complete all homework tasks thoughtfully and carefully before returning it to school by the due date. Homework will be consistent across the year levels but, as we cater to individual student needs, there may be some variation between the grades. Please see your child's class teacher if you or your child have issues or queries regarding homework.

Other Activities and Compass

Please see the calendar of events at the beginning of this letter to review the exciting schedule of activities involving Year 3/4 students this term. Please also be sure to regularly check the school website calendar for all activities at Chatham and also remember to check upcoming events on Compass, ensuring that you provide permission for your child to attend these events before the cut-off date. It is also a requirement that you log on to Compass to explain your child's absence if they are away from school.

Timetable

Below is a timetable outlining your child's Specialist Program for Term 4. On the days we have P.E, please ensure that your child is wearing suitable footwear. Please be aware that there may be changes to the timetable from time to time, due to events or unforeseen circumstances.

3/4N	3/4R	3/4C
Monday – Assembly: 9:05am – 9:45am Performing Arts: 10:00am- 11:00am Tuesday – Library: 12:30pm – 1:30pm Wednesday – P.E: 11:30am – 12:30pm Thursday – Visual Arts: 9:00am – 10:00am Friday – Japanese 12:30pm - 1:30pm	Monday – Assembly: 9:05am – 9:45am Performing Arts 11:30am – 12:30pm Tuesday – Library 2:30pm – 3:30pm Wednesday – Visual Arts 11:30am – 12:30pm Thursday – Japanese 9:00am – 10:00am Friday - P.E. 12:30pm – 1:30pm	Monday – Assembly: 9:05am – 9:45am Performing Arts: 12:30pm - 1:30pm Tuesday – No Specialists Wednesday – Japanese: 11:30am – 12:30pm Thursday – P.E. 9:00am – 10:00am Friday – Visual Arts 12:30pm – 1:30pm Library 2:30 – 3:30pm

We look forward to a positive, eventful and exciting term of learning!
Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sam Norris (3/4N), Corinne Robinson (3/4R), Tim Clarke and Viv Twigg (3/4C)

Year 3/4 Teaching Team

Sam.Norris@education.vic.gov.au

Corrine.Robinson@education.vic.gov.au

Tim.Clake@education.vic.gov.au

Vivianne.Twigg@education.vic.gov.au