

Respect  
Ambition  
Community  
Confidence



October 2024

4/5B Term 4 Newsletter

### Dates Term 4

**10th October** – Assembly  
**14th – 28th October** – Bodywise for Year 3 & 4 - Every Monday  
**16th October** – Abdi Aden Incursion with Year 5 and 6  
**24th October** – Assembly  
**4th November** – Curriculum Day  
**5th November** – Melbourne Cup Holiday  
**7th November** – Assembly  
**11th November** - Remembrance Day  
**21st November** - Assembly  
**27th November** - Keyboard Concert  
**5th December** – Assembly  
**10th December** – Year 7 Orientation Day. Step Up day for Years P to 5  
**11th December** – Year 3&4 La Trobe Sport Activity Day  
**12th December** – Year 6 Graduation  
**18th December** – Year 5&6 Funfields Excursion  
**20th December** – Term 4 ends 1.30pm with Christmas Carols  
**29th January 2025** – Term 1 Yrs 1 – 6 begins

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What an action-packed Term 3! I hope you've all enjoyed the arrival of spring and some sunshine. We kicked off Term 3 with the **Research Potato Olympics**, held alongside the real Olympics. Students had a blast as their potatoes competed in a range of events, all while building valuable maths skills. One of the major highlights of the term was our **school camp to Phillip Island Adventure Camp**, where students spent three exciting days participating in adventurous activities and bonding with their classmates. During **Book Week**, we were treated to a live performance by Perform Education, and we capped off the term with a whole-school **excursion to Melbourne Zoo**, which was a wonderful way to finish.

Looking ahead to Term 4, our focus remains on fostering independence, resilience, and responsibility in our students, while promoting leadership and a love for learning. Our goal is to provide engaging learning experiences that help your child continue to grow both academically and personally.

The following staff will continue working closely with your child, providing many new, stimulating, and challenging activities in our specialist areas. Maryanne Skeen (Science and Technology & Library), Krista Kepitis (Art) and Mark O'Halloran (PE).

Have a read below to see what we have coming up in term four.



### Reading

This term, we will continue with Independent Reading, where students have dedicated time to practice the reading strategies taught in class. We will also review how to choose a 'Good Fit' book and work on building reading stamina. Additionally, we will be conducting Fountas and Pinnell reading assessments with each student.

The key reading strategies we'll focus on this term include Predicting, Summarising, Making Connections, Inferring, Synthesising, Analysing, and Critiquing.

Home Reading is an expectation for all Year 4/5 students. Instead of counting the number of books, students should record the number of nights they read, along with the book title and pages, in their diary/reading logs. We encourage your support in helping your child establish a regular reading routine and engaging in discussions about what they read.

### Writing

Grade 4/5B students are involved in daily writing sessions. Through conversations and discussions, the students are encouraged to broaden and increase their vocabulary. Fun and engaging activities assist in promoting grammar and structure skills. This term we will be focusing on developing Narrative writing skills and Informative texts.

### Mathematics

Throughout Term 4 we will finalise our work on Multiplication before moving into Division, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. We will also be covering Location and Statistics & Probability. Students work at their appropriate level for each topic. Students participate in daily Mathematics sessions and will explore the curriculum through differentiated learning tasks. All students have access both at school and at home to Mathletics on-line to support our Numeracy program.

## Integrated Studies

The "Our Place Australia" unit is designed to deepen students' knowledge and understanding of Australia's geography, focusing on its major cities, key landmarks, diverse landforms, and the states and territories that make up the country. Through this unit, students will explore Australia's rich natural and urban environments, learning how these places are interconnected.

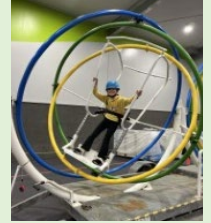
In addition to building geographical knowledge, this unit will develop students' map skills. They will practice creating and interpreting maps, including using symbols, keys, and scales, while locating and labeling significant Australian places. By the end of the unit, students will have a stronger sense of place and an enhanced ability to represent Australia's landscape through maps.

## Home Learning

Home Learning is an extension of our classroom program, helping students build good work habits and time management skills. It will be distributed on Fridays and should be returned by the following Wednesday. The goal is for students to take ownership of their learning at home. We encourage parents to support their child in creating a regular Home Learning routine.

## Term 3 Highlight – Camp!

Our Years 3-6 camp at Phillip Island was a standout experience for everyone! The students were buzzing with excitement as they took part in three days of adventure, teamwork, and fun. It was a memorable trip filled with challenges and new experiences that brought everyone closer together.



## Specialists Classes

In Science & Technology this term, students will be building their knowledge about Physical Science by investigating the effects of forces, such as friction and gravity on the motion of a moving object. We will then delve into Space and explore how Earth rotates on its axis.

In Library sessions students will be given the choice to be part of a Reader's Theatre play. Short scripts will be made available for students to read in front of their classmates. Children will also be given the opportunity to write their own plays. Just a friendly reminder to return any overdue library books. If library books are lost, please contact the school.

In Art, Year 4/5B will focus on Japanese art, particularly art by the famous artist Yayoi Kusama. In the second half of the term, they will create some Christmas themed artwork. They will continue to explore the Art Element of texture throughout the term.

In PE, our Year 4/5 students will focus on fundamental motor skills like running, dodging, and ball bouncing, while also emphasising sportsmanship and fair play. Students will participate in four coach-led basketball sessions to enhance their skills. Additionally, they will take part in a Bike Ed session (Dec 3), bringing their bikes to school to learn about bike safety and maintenance.

## Home – School Communication With Classroom Teachers

I am more than happy to discuss the learning progress of your child with you throughout the year, or any other issues or concerns. I can be emailed through **Compass** online. Please try to avoid catching us after 8.50am in the morning as we are busy preparing for the day. I am unavailable after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to staff training.

## With the School or Office

The following are the school's contact details:

1570 Main Road Research 3095

Tel: 9437 1917

[research.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:research.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## Wellbeing

Wellbeing sessions are designed to address and talk through any challenges students may face in the classroom or playground. By fostering open communication, we aim to enhance students' wellbeing and mental health, with a focus on understanding emotions, thoughts, and building self-esteem. During these sessions, students will explore strategies to navigate difficult situations and strengthen their resilience, including techniques like help-seeking, problem-solving, practicing gratitude, and mindfulness.

Thank you for taking the time to read the Grade 4/5B newsletter. If you have any questions, please reach out to me or you can contact the school directly. I look forward to working successfully with you and your child this year.

Kind Regards  
Peter Blackford