Research Primary School

Respect
Ambition
Community
Confidence





October 2026

3 /4 Term 4 Newsletter

Dates Term 4

8th October – Assembly

8th – 22nd October – Bodywise - Every Thursday

28th October – Whole school photo, Yr 6 + SRC Reps

29th October – Assembly

2nd November – Curriculum Day

3rd November – Melbourne Cup Holiday

6th November – Community Cultural Day

11th November - Remembrance Day

12th November – Assembly

18th November – Keyboard concert

3rd December – Assembly

8th December – Step Up day for Years P to 5

10th December – Year 6 Graduation

11th December – Curriculum Day

15th December – Year 3/4 Latrobe Sports Centre - end of year excursion

18th December – Term 4 ends 1.30pm with Christmas Carols

28th January 2027 – Term 1 begins for Yrs P-6

Dear Year 3 / 4 Families,

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a relaxing Spring break and some quality family time. Our Year 3/4 students have returned full of energy and excitement, ready for a busy and rewarding final term of 2026.

Term 3 was certainly one to remember! A major highlight was our 3–6 Camp Weekaway, where students embraced new experiences, challenged themselves and strengthened friendships. We were so proud of the way they supported one another and made the most of every opportunity.

And then there was our whole school production, Australian History Expo and Spotlight on the Year 3/4 classes at assembly! Each of these events provided students with a wonderful opportunity to share their learning, talents and achievements with our wider school community.

Across all of these experiences, our students demonstrated our RPS values of Respect, Community, Ambition and Confidence. They showed ambition by having a go and embracing new challenges, confidence by stepping up and sharing their learning, respect by supporting and encouraging others, and community by working together and celebrating each other's successes.

There is so much to be proud of from Term 3, and we are incredibly excited to see what our students will achieve in the final term of the year. With plenty more learning, celebrations and special moments ahead, we look forward to finishing 2026 together with the same enthusiasm, curiosity and sense of community that our Year 3/4 students have demonstrated throughout the year.

Reading
This term, students will continue to take part in Guided Reading sessions, where they will read, discuss and respond to a range of texts with their peers. These conversations develop speaking and listening skills while deepening students' comprehension and enjoyment of literature. We will focus on three ways of thinking about what we read:

- Within the Text – finding and understanding information that is directly stated
- Beyond the Text – making inferences and interpreting implied meaning
- About the Text – analysing the author's choices and evaluating the text

At home, the book your child chooses to read is intended to nurture a love of reading and support the development of their independent reading habits. This book may come from the library, classroom bookshelf, or be one they already own. In addition, students have access to Reading Eggs, which offers a wide range of fiction and non-fiction eBooks in its digital library.

We truly appreciate your ongoing support in listening to your child read regularly and engaging them in conversations about their book to help check and extend their understanding.

This term the following staff will be working closely with your child. **Specialists:** Cath McLardy (Science & Library), Zoe Minnis (Art), Mark O'Halloran (P.E.).

Writing
We will begin Term 4 by exploring persuasive writing, with a focus on text structure and language features. Students will choose a topic of interest and develop a persuasive piece supported by three detailed arguments, using facts, examples and explanations to justify their opinion.

Later in the term, students will dive into Poetry and our Poetry Slam! They will explore how figurative language, including similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia, imagery and personification, can express emotions and create mood and tone. Students will also compose their own raps, experimenting with rhyme, rhythm, repetition and syllables to bring their words to life.

We can't wait to see their creativity shine!

Spelling
To strengthen students' understanding of phonemes and graphemes this term, they will explore a range of sounds and their corresponding letter patterns, including the schwa sound 'uh' as in *ladder*, 'air' as in *chair*, 'k' as in *kite*, 'j' as in *jellyfish*, 's' as in *seal*, 'w' as in *web*, 'sh' as in *shell*, and 'ch' as in *chicken*.

Grammar
Students will continue to develop their grammar and punctuation skills by exploring paragraph structure, persuasive devices, quotation marks, apostrophes, commas and figurative language. They will apply these skills across their reading and writing to communicate their ideas clearly and effectively.

Mathematics
In Term 4, we will continue learning our times table facts and exploring fractions to build a strong foundation for our new topic on division. Students will also strengthen their problem-solving skills through a variety of word problems. Additionally, we will investigate Shape, helping students develop their understanding of 2D and 3D shapes, their features and how they can be described, classified and compared.

Our maths sessions will maintain a strong connection to real-life contexts and include differentiated activities tailored to meet each student's individual learning needs. To further support learning, students will continue using Mathletics to build and reinforce their numeracy skills.

Wellbeing
Wellbeing sessions will continue to provide opportunities for students to discuss issues that may arise at school and develop strategies to support themselves and others. Through the Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships program, students will explore the following topics: stress management, help-seeking, gender norms and stereotypes and positive gender relationships. Students will also participate in collaborative team-building activities that encourage communication, cooperation and problem-solving.

Health and Human Relations Education
This term, we are fortunate to welcome Sex Education Australia (SEA) to deliver age-appropriate programs aligned with the Victorian Curriculum. Sessions will focus on health, personal safety, respectful relationships, understanding our bodies and an introduction to puberty. SEA's qualified educators use a range of interactive activities, including discussion, videos, games and worksheets, to support students' learning in an engaging and respectful way. The program is inclusive of the diverse values and beliefs of families and aims to support students' physical, social and emotional wellbeing. Sessions will be conducted separately for Year 3 and Year 4 students within their classrooms.

Integrated Studies - This term, students will become designers and engineers as they plan, create and test their own Cardboard Arcade games using recycled and upcycled materials. They will explore forces, movement and game design while considering their audience. Students will test, gather feedback and refine their designs before sharing their creations at our Cardboard Arcade Expo (later in the term), where Year 1 / 2 students will be invited to play!

Specialists Classes - Your child will be participating in the following specialist classes this term:

SCIENCE – This term, our Year 3/4 students will investigate how forces can affect objects, both when they are touching and from a distance. They will explore friction, gravity, magnetism, static electricity and buoyancy through a range of hands-on investigations. Students will also develop their coding and robotics skills and apply their understanding of forces to design and solve problems.

ART - This term in Art, students will view the vibrant animal artworks by Dean Russo, a contemporary artist from Brooklyn, NY exploring his materials, techniques, and process to inspire an artwork depicting an animal of their choice. They will use skills of tracing, painting, and stencilling to create a unique animal artwork. Students will analyse artists' paintings of various types of landscapes. They will discuss materials and techniques used to create depth and perspective, including the size of objects. Students will use a photo of a chosen landscape as a reference to paint and add found and natural textural items in a sturdy box lid. They will end the term decorating their own Christmas Tree Ornament.

PE - In Term 4, our Year 3/4 students will develop their skills and understanding of a range of sports, including lacrosse, European handball, tennis and cricket. They will practise key movement skills, develop their teamwork and tactical awareness. The students will compete in intraschool sports every fortnight with a focus on developing sportsmanship by showing respect, playing fairly and encouraging others.

Home Learning
Home Learning will commence again in Week 3 and is an important part of our classroom program, helping to develop positive work habits and time management skills. Home Learning will be handed out on Wednesdays and is due back on the following Monday.

The aim of Home Learning is for students to take personal responsibility for their learning at home. Parents are encouraged to support their child in establishing a regular and consistent home learning routine. Please note that Home Reading is a homework task and is an expected part of your child's nightly homework routine.

Home – School Communication with Classroom Teachers
We are always more than happy to discuss your child's learning progress throughout the year, as well as any other questions, concerns, or issues you may have. We can be contacted via email through Compass online.

Please try to avoid catching us after 8:50am in the morning, as this is a busy time preparing for the day. In addition, please note that we are 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

Thank you for taking the time to read the Year 3/4 Term 4 Newsletter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the school. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you and your child.

Kind regards,
Maryanne Skeen