



Year 3 Term 1 Newsletter

Welcome to Year 3! Our Year 3 teachers are looking forward to getting to know you and your child this year. Our Year 3 classes for 2025 are: **3A** – Mrs Ambler, **3B** – Mrs Wood (*Mon-Wed*) and Mrs Balfas (*Thurs-Fri*), **3C** – Mrs Commens, **3K** – Miss Kean and **3M** – Mrs Mathur. Miss Kean is the Assistant Principal supervising Year 3 for Semester 1.

We have an exciting term ahead! Please ensure that you have access to the School Bytes Parent app for our weekly school newsletters and parent notifications. Additionally, please ensure you have parent access to Seesaw. The following outline provides an overview of the learning that will take place this term.

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 25 February	Stage 2 'Meet the Teacher' 6:45-7:30pm
Wednesday 12-Monday 24 March	NAPLAN Testing Window
Tuesday 1 April	3-6 Cross Country Carnival
Monday 7 April	ANZAC Service 9:30am (School Hall)
Friday 11 April	Last day of Term 1 (students return Wednesday 30 April)

Scripture	Wednesday 9:30-10:00am (commencing Week 5)
PSSA Sport	Friday 11:00-1:00pm (Weeks 5, 6, 9 & 10)

School Bell Times

9:00am	Morning bell
11:00-11:20am	Outdoor recess play
1:10pm	Eating time in classrooms
1:20-2:00pm	Outdoor lunch play
3:00pm	Afternoon dismissal

Health Check

Please only send your child to school if they are well and healthy, do not send your child to school if they are unwell and/or exhibiting any flu-like symptoms. Parents will be asked to collect their child immediately if they become unwell during the day.

English

Students will develop their understanding of narratives, characterisation and genre this term. Through the study of a range of texts, students will explore how narratives set up expectations for the reader using predictable structure and familiar characters and situations. Students will experiment with genre to create a variety of texts using their understanding of structure and language choices to suit a text's purpose. Students will also plan, draft and revise a narrative sequel using an orientation, complication, resolution structure.

Students will be explicitly taught a wide range of reading strategies to support their comprehension of fiction and non-fiction texts during weekly modelled reading lessons. Some of these strategies include predicting, connecting, visualising and monitoring. In guided reading sessions, students will practise using these comprehension strategies whilst reading and decoding texts suited to their individual level. Additionally, they will work towards improving their reading accuracy, automaticity, rate and fluency when working with the teacher.

Spelling lessons will be implemented through the 'Words Their Way' program. Using this framework, teachers individualise their instruction for students based on their point of need in spelling and focus on developing knowledge of vocabulary, word meaning and spelling patterns. Students will further their understanding and application of phonetic patterns in words and engage in activities involving all four areas of spelling knowledge – visual, phonemic, morphemic and etymological.

Students will participate in weekly handwriting lessons. This term, they will practise forming letters with consistent size and slope in NSW Foundation Style. They will also work on ensuring they position all letters correctly on the line with appropriate spacing between words.

Mathematics

Students will develop their ability to work mathematically by reasoning, problem solving and communicating across the strands Number and Algebra, Measurement and Space, and Statistics and Probability. All lessons are adapted to suit the skill level of each student. Mathematics content will be connected across these strands to enable students to develop a deep understanding of the following concepts.

Number and Algebra

- Whole numbers: Read, represent and order numbers to thousands
- Whole numbers: Apply place value to partition and regroup numbers up to 6 digits
- Whole numbers: Order numbers in the thousands
- Whole numbers: Recognise and represent numbers that are 10, 100 or 1000 times as large
- Generate and describe patterns
- Use arrays to establish multiplication facts from multiples of 2 and 4, 5 and 10
- Recall multiplication facts of 2 and 4, 5 and 10 and related division facts
- Use the principle of equality
- Recognise and explain the connection between addition and subtraction
- Select strategies flexibly to solve addition and subtraction problems of up to 3 digits
- Partition, rearrange and regroup numbers to at least 1000 to solve additive problems
- Create fractional parts of a length using techniques other than repeated halving
- Model and represent unit fractions, and their multiples, to complete a whole on a number line

Measurement and Space

- Length: Measure and compare objects using metres, centimetres and millimetres
- Length: Use scaled instruments to measure and compare lengths
- 2D Shapes: Compare and describe features of two-dimensional shapes
- Time: Represent and read analog time

Statistics and Probability

- Collect discrete data
- Organise and display data using tables and graphs
- Interpret and compare data

History:

In History this term, students will explore how and why people around the world choose to remember significant events of the past. They will investigate celebrations and commemorations popular within Australia and will discover why these are significant. Students will undertake a research task about a global commemoration or celebration and will enquire into its origin and history.

PDHPE: Personal Development and Health

This term in PDH, students will explore strategies to manage and deal with physical, social and emotional changes. They will learn to identify various trusted adults in their lives that they can go to for help or to seek more information about the changes they are experiencing in their lives.

Creative Arts: Visual Arts & Drama

Stage 2 students will participate in the art forms of visual arts and drama this term. During visual arts lessons, students will explore the elements of art to understand why artworks are created and interpret the message behind them. They will learn to use the colour wheel and experiment with abstract drawing and painting

techniques to represent the subject matter. In drama, practical lessons will focus on students identifying and applying the elements of drama to create improvised scenes.

STEM:

Students will participate in a range of class STEM lessons. They will design a solution to an authentic problem by designing a system that monitors or protects a small Australian native animal.

Science:

This term in science, Stage 2 students will be exploring the unit called ‘Material World’. They will learn to identify different states of matter in real life, focusing on how solids, liquids and gases change state. Through planning, questioning and documenting, students will investigate the different effects and changes of heating and cooling on varying states of matter.

PDHPE: Physical Education

During Term 1, students will be participating in Stage 2 Physical Education lessons to further develop their ball and striking skills. The focus will be to correctly administer a two-handed strike, throwing and catching a large ball. The skills will be applied to a range of modified team games which may include cricket and T-ball. When the weather is cooler students will start training for the school’s cross-country carnival. To be organised and ready students should wear the correct sports uniform, including sport shoes, a hat and a drink bottle. In addition to weekly PE lessons, students will participate in PSSA or sport on a Friday.

Year 3 students are asked to wear their **sports uniform** on the following days this term for **class PE lessons**:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	3B, 3K	3A, 3C	3M	All Year 3 students

Library Borrowing:

Students must bring a library bag to borrow books from the school library. Library bags can be purchased from the school library for \$2.00. Library borrowing will run on the following days for Year 3 this term:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3A, 3B, 3K & 3M	3C			

Homework

Students will be assigned homework task to complete over a fortnight. To start this term, students will design a poster titled “All About Me”. Following this project, homework activities to be completed include daily home reading, spelling tasks, mathematics and KLA tasks. All homework tasks are designed to be revision and should be able to be completed independently, however, we encourage students to read aloud to an adult for the home reading component on at least some of the nights. Please record your child’s home reading on the grid each day, which can be found on the fortnightly homework sheet.

Absences

Absences from school require a note explaining the absence. Absences **must be explained within seven (7) days**. You can submit an absence notification via School Bytes or email castlehill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Alternatively, a note can accompany your child upon their return to school. All medical certificates should be emailed directly to the school rather than the class teacher. Please advise the front office if your child will be taking an extended absence as this may require the completion of an exemption form. If students arrive at school late or depart early, they must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and must be signed in/out at the front office first.

If at any time you have questions or concerns about your child’s learning or welfare, please feel free to make an appointment with the class teacher.

We are looking forward to a fabulous term!

Warm regards from the Year 3 teachers,

Mrs Ambler, Mrs Wood, Mrs Balfas, Mrs Commens, Mrs Mathur & Miss Kean (*relieving Year 3 Assistant Principal*)