

Stage 3 Curriculum Overview – Term 1, 2021

English

Reading and Viewing

Students will be participating in a variety of reading activities that include guided, whole class and individual reading activities, using class novels, visual literacy books, readers and school magazines. The focus this term will be on development of comprehension skills.

Writing and Representing

Imaginative and persuasive text will be the focus in writing using scaffolding – title, introduction, middle and ending as the building framework. Specific grammar skills will be taught in directed lessons and integrated into writing lessons.

Spelling – Students will learn a weekly list made up of sound, theme and extension words. Spelling activities will occur throughout the week. Spelling words are also linked to our Key Learning Areas.

Speaking and Listening

All students will participate in a public speaking activity this term. Information will be posted to Google Classroom pages.

Mathematics

Our goal is to foster a positive learning environment for students and a real connection and sense that Mathematics will be important in their future world. Concepts will be covered in the content strands of:

- **Number and Algebra**
- **Measurement and Geometry**
- **Statistics and Probability**

Mathematics groups are streamed across the 3 content strands with 7 Mathematics classes in operation.

Teaching and learning activities will develop skills in the Working Mathematically strand that runs throughout all the content strands. The skills developed are questioning, applying strategies, communicating, reasoning and reflecting.

Matific is an online learning program to which all students at MPS subscribe. Homework will be differentiated to cater to all mathematical abilities, so ensure there is a consistent routine in completing the activities set for your children.

Science & Technology

Our goal is for students to initiate, use and apply the processes of Working Scientifically and Working Technologically with a greater level of independence. Out Term 1 Unit, *Physical and Chemical Changes* provides opportunities for students to explore melting, evaporating, dissolving, reacting and burning. Students' understanding of the factors that influence the rate of change will be developed through hands-on activities and student-planned investigations. Students become detectives who identify and explain physical and chemical changes in everyday materials.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are utilised across all Key Learning Areas. Students have daily access to Chromebooks. We will focus on developing students' research, production and presentation skills.

STEM kits have been an additional technology resource that will continue to be used throughout the term as an innovative method of learning. Stage 3 students will have access to *Lego WeDo*. The kits are designed for students to engage with computational thinking and STEM concepts through laptop technology.

ScopeIT Education supports educators with a range of programs to implement digital technologies learning in your school. Their goal is to equip the upcoming generation with skills to turn their imaginations into technological reality, enhancing not only their educational outcomes but also their future employment prospects. Students will participate in a 7 week program each Thursday from weeks 3-9. Students can expect a fun, interactive and educational experience that will equip them with digital technology skills and knowledge for their future.

Google Classroom helps teachers and students to communicate and can be used to organise and manage assignments, to go paperless, for collaboration between students and between teachers, for teaching from a distance. It's built on top of Google Docs and Google Drive, which means it's very easy to use and intuitive.

How Google Classroom is used across Stage 3:

- Posting weekly homework/assignments/projects/class learning tasks
- Provide feedback on homework/assignments/projects/class learning tasks
- Reminders for upcoming events
- Post links to support Key Learning Areas
- Collaborative learning

How Google Classroom is **NOT** used across Stage 3:

- Permission notes
- Communication with parents
- Communication between students (not a chat room)
- Sharing inappropriate content

Please see the **Specialist Programs Timetable** for the day of your child's lesson should they be participating this term.

Human Society and Its Environment

Australia as a Nation (NSW History K-6 syllabus) is the unit for Semester 1. This topic moves from colonial Australia to the development of Australia as a nation, particularly after 1901. Students explore the factors that led to Federation and experiences of democracy and citizenship over time. Students understand the significance of Australia's British heritage, the Westminster system and other models that influenced the development of Australia's system of government. Students learn about the way of life of people who migrated to Australia and their contributions to Australia's economic and social development.

This unit will include a 3 day / 2 night excursion to Canberra in Term 1, Week 10 (Tuesday March 30 – Thursday April 1).

Creative Arts

Visual arts activities will complement KLA themes. Students will have the opportunity to regularly explore their own creativity through making and appreciating artworks.

Music will be taught this year as a specialist program by Mrs O'Neill [Term 1] and Mrs Tauber [Terms 2 to 4]. See **General Information** for further details.

Personal Development / Health / Physical Education

PD / Health

Students will complete a MPS Code of Conduct unit, which is a comprehensive, integrated whole school approach to student wellbeing and behaviour. Year 6 will participate in the Peer Support program focusing on “Keeping Friends – Relationships”. Year 6 students will deliver the program to their K-5 peers.

PE/Sport

Physical education lessons will be taught by the class teachers following a sequential sport skills program. Your child will be participating in Physical Education (PE) on Tuesdays and Fridays, and will partake in cross country training sessions in preparation for the Term 2 Cross Country Carnival.

Specialist Sport Program

Every 3rd week, students will participate in a program delivered by **Fit Futures**. All programs run by Fit Futures are provided by qualified teachers. The programs are designed to maximise participation and development of all students. They provide a comprehensive range of age specific equipment for students to use. During Fit Futures lessons, the students will rotate through 3 different skill-based activities, for the duration of 40 minutes [120 minutes in total].

The programs in Term 1:

Gymnastics - This program aims to give students the opportunity to practise the skills at their own pace. Students will be taught by qualified gymnastics instructors to ensure technique is taught correctly. Students are assessed on the following 3 categories throughout the duration of the program:

- jump, swing, strength
- rolls, floor work and locomotion
- rhythmic and composition

Athletics - This program aims to give students the opportunity to learn and practise the skills of each track and field event in preparation for their school athletics carnival. It is designed to cater for students of all levels starting with basic skills progressing to refining technique.

Students are assessed on the following 3 categories throughout the duration of the program:

- throw: discus, shotput, javelin
- jump: long jump, high jump
- sprint/run: long distance/short distance

Specialist Programs Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Library	SeniorLemon SeniorQuinoa	SeniorMulberry	SeniorDewberry SeniorChilli SeniorAvocado		
Mandarin	SeniorDewberry SeniorChilli		SeniorLemon SeniorMulberry	SeniorQuinoa SeniorAvocado	
Music	SeniorLemon SeniorDewberry SeniorChilli		SeniorAvocado	SeniorMulberry SeniorQuinoa	