

Stage 2 Curriculum Overview – Term 1, 2021

English

Reading and Viewing

Through whole class, guided and individual reading activities, students will view and read imaginative, informative and persuasive writing to make connections between texts and their own experiences. They will develop skills, strategies and knowledge of text structure, context, comprehension strategies, grammar, punctuation, word usage and phonics during literacy groups and class lessons.

Writing and Representing

Students will create imaginative, informative and persuasive texts on familiar topics by planning, proofreading and editing their own writing. Basic grammatical features and conventions of punctuation will be taught in directed lessons and integrated into writing lessons with a focus on sentence structure, nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, compound sentences and conjunctions. The theme for this term is *Take 3 For The Sea*.

Spelling – Students will learn a weekly list made up of sound, theme and extension words, as well as 5 words identified by the teacher in student writing books. Spelling activities will occur throughout the week.

Handwriting - Lessons will focus on students forming letters correctly following the NSW Foundation handwriting style. Year 3 students will be writing in pre-cursive handwriting, and Year 4 will be writing in cursive style.

Speaking and Listening

Activities will focus on students developing interaction skills, including active listening behaviours and communicating in a clear, coherent manner using a variety of every day and learned vocabulary and appropriate tone, pace, pitch and volume.

Mathematics

Teaching and learning activities focus on students asking questions and using known facts, objects, diagrams and technology to explore mathematical problems and develop mathematical fluency. They link mathematical ideas and use appropriate language and diagrams to explain specific strategies. Students develop skills in Working Mathematically through questioning, applying strategies, communicating, reasoning and reflecting. Each student will have a Treasure Box, which contains a variety of resources to support the Mathematics program. Concepts will be covered in the content strands of: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability.

Science & Technology

Students will participate in inquiry-based learning through individual, collaborative and hands-on learning experiences exploring scientific phenomena. They will build upon their prior knowledge, have opportunities to represent their understanding in many ways, and develop investigation skills.

The topic for this term is *Living World*. Students will extend their understanding of observable features, change and growth of living things to the concept of life cycles, as they observe their local environment for the existence (or not) of native plants or animals. Students are reintroduced to the design process and continue to develop skills appropriate to the design task.

The topic provides a study and focus on the following key inquiry questions:

- How can we group living things?
- What are the similarities and differences between the life cycles of living things?
- How are environments and living things interdependent?
- How do we create food and fibre products from animals and plants?

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are utilised across all Key Learning Areas to enhance learning. Students have daily access to Chromebooks, providing ample opportunity for students to develop their research, production and presentation skills.

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 2:

- 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 2:

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

Human Society and Its Environment

The unit *First Contact* introduces world history and the movements of cultures. Students examine the impact of exploration on other societies, how these societies interacted with newcomers, and how these experiences contributed to their cultural diversity.

The topic provides a study and focus on 3 key inquiry questions:

- Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
- What was life like for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples before the arrival of the Europeans?
- Why did Europeans settle in Australia?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?

Creative Arts

Visual Arts lessons are integrated into programs to support the content and to celebrate special events such as Mothers' Day and the Mini-Mos Fun Run & Fair.

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

Personal development and health lessons will focus on how a student's uniqueness shapes who they are. They will also engage in the Peer Support program to develop positive peer relations.

PE/Sport

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	4Mandarin	3Honeydew 4Blueberry	4Ginger		3Mushroom 3Peach
Mandarin					3Honeydew 3Mushroom 3Peach 4Blueberry 4Ginger 4Mandarin
Music		3Honeydew 4Blueberry			3Mushroom 3Peach 4Ginger 4Mandarin