Welcome to Grade 4

The grade 4 teachers have compiled this information detailing our class programs and arrangements for 2016. We would like parents to be aware of the arrangements that are in place in the Year 4 area and we hope this information will be of use to you. If you have any questions about this information or any other aspect of your child’s class program, please contact your child’s teacher by making an appointment before or after school.

Class Teachers and Room Numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 4MK</th>
<th>Mrs Melany Morrison / Mrs Amber Kirk-Jambor</th>
<th>Room 23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4MM</td>
<td>Mrs Michelle Monitto</td>
<td>Room 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4MH</td>
<td>Mr Mark Hardy</td>
<td>Room 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4EM</td>
<td>Ms Emma McInerney</td>
<td>Room 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4MD</td>
<td>Mrs Mandy DeLacy</td>
<td>Room 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4JM</td>
<td>Mrs Jaimie Montebello</td>
<td>Room 33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each year level has developed a program that will cater to the needs of the students in our grades while encompassing all aspects of the Victorian Curriculum. Some of the areas the curriculum will cover include Interpersonal Development, Personal Learning, Science, History and Geography. These, along with subject areas such as Health and Physical Education, Information Communication Technology and The Arts, are used to develop Inquiry Based Learning units of work. “Inquiry is a systematic investigation or study into a worthy question, issue, problem or idea.”

In order to ensure that the appropriate content for each level has been included in the children's studies, we have developed a set of “questions, problems, issues or ideas” that will be undertaken by the students in year 4. This ensures that children will cover the content areas from all learning areas in the Victorian Curriculum documents.

Teachers endeavour to cater for those students experiencing difficulties as well as catering for those who need further challenges in our term and weekly planning.

Explanation of the Victorian Curriculum Levels

- Level F is the expectations by the completion of grade prep.
- Level 1 is the expectations at the completion of grade 1.
- Level 2 is the expectations at the completion of grade 2.
- Level 3 is the expectations at the completion of grade 3.
- Level 4 is the expectations at the completion of grade 4.
- Level 5 is the expectations at the completion of grade 5.
- Level 6 is the expectations at the completion of grade 6.

Please note, each child is an individual and these levels should only be used as a guide. Teachers endeavour to cater for those children experiencing difficulties as well as catering for those who need further challenges, within our planning.
English
English includes the areas of Spelling, Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening.

Reading - Students have regular independent reading time at school and may use books from the classroom, borrowed from the Library or bring books or other reading material of interest from home.

Students are expected to:
- read regularly at home at least 4 times each week for 20 - 30 minutes.
- take home reading material from the classroom to read at home each night.
- choose their books independently and ensure that the reading material they take home is a book that can be 'easily' read.

Students should also be encouraged to read local newspapers at home as topical events may be discussed in class. If reader books or library books are lost, a fee will need to be paid to cover the costs of the lost resources.

Spelling - Based on each students' individual needs and if necessary, they may have words to learn each week. They will practise these at school and at home. Testing is done regularly. Words come from lists such as: Essential Word Lists, Commonly Misspelt Words List, Blend Focus Lists, Inquiry Investigation Word Lists, children's own writing and extended word sources.

Mathematics
Mathematics includes the areas of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Teachers will also plan a variety of 'hands on' activities using a wide range of resources and equipment available within the school.

Specialist Program.
This year the children will have specialist lessons in:
- Physical Education with Mrs Tegan deMan and Mr Matthew Tomkins
- Performing Arts with Mrs Emma Pisano and Mrs Nicole Eckardt
- Italian with Ms Nicoletta DeRemigis
- Visual Arts with Mrs Ele Newham and Mr Morgan Williams

Physical Education and Italian will run all year. Performing Arts and Visual Arts will run for six months of the year each.

P.E.
It is important that students wear appropriate footwear for P.E. as children are not allowed to wear school shoes in the multipurpose room when completing physical activities.

Art
Students will require an Art Smock for art this year. The art room policy will be NO ART SMOCk, NO ART. Please make sure that your child's Art smock is clearly named.
**Library**
During the year the classroom teacher will be taking your child to the library. Children will need to bring a bag for library borrowing. If they do not have one they will be unable to borrow books.

**Homework.**
It is expected that each week children will;
- read for 30 minutes a day at least 4 times a week and discuss their text with a family member
- practice multiplication facts

Children may be given additional homework tasks to complete throughout the year.

**Camp**
The Grade 4 camp has been booked for 3rd - 7th and the 17th - 19th of October 2016 at DOXA, Malmsbury. Further information including costs will be given out closer to the date.

**Communication.**
Please keep the school informed of issues that may affect your child such as changes to your home address and emergency phone numbers.

**Parental Help.**
Parents helping out at school are of great benefit to the children. There are many varied ways you could help. If you are able to help out please see your child’s teacher as they will be grateful for any assistance you could give. You may also wish to become a member of our School Council.

**Absences**
All students are expected to attend every day. It is important that your child attends school regularly and if they are going to be absent, where possible inform the school in writing about the reason for this absence.

**Uniforms and Hats**
Students are expected to wear full school uniform every day. If they are unable to, please send a note explaining why they don’t have uniform and when they will be in uniform again. School hats are to be worn in Term One and Term Four. The school has adopted the ‘No Hat, No Play’ policy.
Lunch Orders
When ordering lunch students need to pre-order their food. Their order should be on a paper bag with money included. Children are not to buy food from the canteen for their lunch as counter sales are only for snacks and the canteen does not make extra lunch items.

Grade 4 Special Events (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>INCURSIONS, EXCURSIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS</th>
<th>APPROXIMATE COST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONE</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Information Exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multicultural/Harmony Day</td>
<td>No cost</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>Life Education</td>
<td>Included in school levy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>History Incursion</td>
<td>Included in school levy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Week:</td>
<td>No cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walkathon:</td>
<td>Donation collection- no other cost Included in school levy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performing Arts Incursion</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>THREE</td>
<td>Incursion: TBC</td>
<td>Included in school levy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Italian Day Performance</td>
<td>Included in school levy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Science Week</td>
<td>No cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book Week</td>
<td>No cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOUR</td>
<td>Grade 4 Camp – October</td>
<td>Approx. $130</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family Fun Day (6th November)</td>
<td>No cost</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
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</tbody>
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Homework Policy

This policy has been reviewed in accordance with “Homework Guidelines” Department of Education and Training June 2015.

Rationale:
- Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.
- Homework provides further opportunities for parents to participate in their child’s education.

Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework routines from early primary school.

Aims:
- Homework should be designed to reinforce concepts taught in the classroom, not to introduce new concepts and be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.
- Homework tasks should encourage students to develop and maintain regular and independent homework habits and routines.
- Homework should be appropriate to the student’s skill level and age and be interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open ended.

Implementation:

Early Years (Prep – 4)
Prep to Year 4 homework should not be seen as a chore.
Homework will:
- enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials
- mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings
This will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day.

Middle Years (Years 5 & 6)
Years 5 & 6 homework:
- should include daily independent reading
- may include extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
This will generally range from 30 – 45 minutes a day at Year 5 & 6.

Expectations
Teachers:
- Homework will be corrected and feedback given as appropriate.
- Parents will be notified through reports, parent/teacher interviews or as appropriate when homework is not being submitted on a regular basis.

Parents and Care Givers:
- Are asked to sign their child’s reading and homework tasks.
- Are encouraged to assist their children but the tasks should be completed by the child.
- Are encouraged to give feedback to the class teacher regarding homework concerns.
Rationale:
- Students dressed in school uniform gain a sense of belonging to the school.
- The cost of providing school uniform is almost always cheaper than providing an assortment of casual clothes.
- School uniform is designed to be practical for the range of activities undertaken at the school.
- All students are required to wear uniform, reducing competition in fashion dressing. All students, regardless of socio economic circumstance can feel equally part of the school community.
- Staff and parents will have an important role in the positive encouragement of the wearing of school uniform.

Implementation:
- If a child is unable to wear school uniform on a particular day, parents should advise the class teacher in writing, indicating the reasons and likely duration.
- Where there are frequent occurrences of a child being out of uniform, contact will be made with parents by the Student Engagement Coordinator to seek their support in ensuring the Uniform Policy will be adhered to.
- Parents will be able to obtain the uniform from the school's uniform supplier, the school's preloved uniform stock or commercial outlets.
- The Uniform Policy should be read in conjunction with the Sunsmart Policy.
- The Uniform Policy will be published each year in the Family Information Booklet.
- A parent/guardian may contact the principal requesting the student be exempted from wearing uniform, including reasons for seeking exemption. eg. health or religious reasons.
- All students are required to wear the uniform as listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Colour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirts</td>
<td>Polo shirt –short/long sleeve Skivvy</td>
<td>Pale blue or white</td>
<td>Shoes and socks</td>
<td>Runners</td>
<td>Black or white</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School shoes/boots</td>
<td>Black</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sandals (toe enclosed)</td>
<td>Grey, white</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>Blue or white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tops</td>
<td>Windcheater Hooded Windcheater Bomber Jacket</td>
<td>Royal blue with School Logo</td>
<td>Hats</td>
<td>Legionnaire/Bucket Polar Fleece Beanie</td>
<td>Royal blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottoms</td>
<td>Track pants Boot leg pants Leggings Shorts/Skorts Shorts,cargo or school pants</td>
<td>Royal blue</td>
<td>Hair</td>
<td>Tied back if touching shoulders. Note: To assist in the prevention of the spread of head lice.</td>
<td>Blue or white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Royal blue/white</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ribbons, bands or hair ties</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Royal blue/white</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Royal blue/white</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dresses</td>
<td>School Summer Dress Winter Tunic</td>
<td>Colour 8160 Royal blue, white and gold check Style T001</td>
<td>Jewellery</td>
<td>Studs/sleepers only Note: For health and safety reasons, these can be worn only in ears. Watches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Council last ratified this policy in February 2013