



Bacchus Marsh
Grammar

Woodlea Campus – Year 4

Term 2 Newsletter

Dear **Parents/Guardians**,

Welcome to Term Two! We hope you had a lovely Easter and term break. We are looking forward to a busy and productive term.

Literacy

Throughout Literacy in Term Two, students will continue to build on their reading comprehension skills, writing skills, spelling, vocabulary, and grammar.

Students will build on the comprehension skills of identifying the main idea and comparing different information. These skills will also be embedded throughout all reading sessions. We encourage students to continue to consolidate these skills in their nightly reading. Students will continue to use their Reader's Notebook for reading lessons, this will be used to further develop their comprehension skills.

The genre foci for writing this term will be Recounts, which will also be linked into the Term Two History and Geography focus of '*Explorers*'. We will also be embedding a grammar focus within all writing sessions to ensure that these skills are being improved upon consistently.

Students will continue building on their understanding of spelling and phonemic awareness through the Sound Waves program, explicitly being taught a new sound each week. They will consolidate their understanding by completing a diverse range of activities each day, ending the week with a spelling test.

Each week, students will also complete one session of 'reading groups', focusing on reading comprehension. This will allow students to work with other students from their class, who have similar learning focuses.

Numeracy

Throughout Numeracy in Term Two, students will continue to build on their understanding in Number and Measurement. In Number, students will continue to use mental and written methods to evaluate and solve problems and will work to further extend their ability to solve multiplication and division problems.

In Measurement, students will investigate measuring length, perimeter and area using formal and informal units of measurement. Students will also be developing their understanding of time, reading 12 and 24-hour time, as well as, converting between units of time and calculating duration.

Students will continue to build on their mental computation of number facts to help consolidate their understanding of Number through the weekly completion of mental maths activities.

Global Studies

'Explorers': Students will develop an understanding of the term 'exploration' and the different explorers and countries they came from. They will analyse the history of trade amongst Australian Indigenous People and the neighbouring Torres Strait Islanders and investigate the challenges faced by the different explorers.



Physical Education

Year 4 students can look forward to another exciting and busy term in Sport and Physical Education. During PE classes, students will be again participating in the Jump Rope For Heart fundraiser, and equipment such as balls and hula hoops will be incorporated into their skipping. They will also revise the fundamental motor skills of 'punting' (AFL kicking), throwing and catching techniques.

Students had the opportunity to compete for their house in the House Cross Country in Term 1, from which a school representative team was chosen for the MPSSA Cross Country Carnival to compete this term.

Science

In Term Two, Year Four Students will study Earth and Space Science. They will learn about what makes our planet unique and how humans impact Earth. Students will explore different soils whilst developing their practical skills. They will also learn how natural phenomena, such as wind and water, cause weathering and erosion.

Art

This term in Art, students will explore drawing and painting. Students will also develop techniques in manipulating and joining wire.

Performing Arts

In Music and Performing Arts, the students will further develop their knowledge of music literacy and demonstrate their performance skills through rhythm clapping, playing percussion instruments and group singing. The students will also broaden their knowledge of music and instruments from around the globe and continue to develop and refine their Music Theory knowledge.

ICT

Throughout Term 2 students will be excited to be undertaking a computer programming unit which utilises the online resource, *Scratch*.

They will be learning about sprites, scripts, and stages, as well as costumes and libraries to effectively write their own programs and allow their creativity to flourish.

Throughout the semester, students will continue to focus on improving their touch-typing skills, using Typing Tournament.

Homework

It is expected that all Year 4 students will continue to maintain the homework routines they have established throughout Term 1. Your child will write their homework in their diary each day, detailing the specific subject areas to be covered each night. It is imperative to your child's development that reading forms a significant component of homework expectations each night, including weekend reading.

As a reminder, Year 4 students are expected to spend thirty minutes on set homework each night, Monday through Thursday. Additionally, they are required to read for at least ten minutes per day, including weekends where possible. Reading is a very important aspect of homework at this level, and it is expected that students record their reading in the Reading Diary provided each night and complete a Reading Reflection one night a week. Students are encouraged to reflect on their reading in relation to the reading goals they have set for themselves or by the teacher during the reading group time in the classroom.

Please note, if homework is incomplete without parent notification, then the student's school diary will be stamped.

If the diary is stamped three times in one term, the student will receive a homework detention from the Year Level Coordinator.



Schoolbox

At the beginning of the year, you would have received an Introduction to Schoolbox email which contained instructions on how to access our Family Engagement page.

The Family Engagement page promotes communication between teachers and parents, whilst providing family members and carers the opportunity to engage in their child's school life.

It is a valuable tool for us to showcase our learning and provide an insight into what is happening inside the classroom. We can post news and work sample images, and deliver useful information, such as: website links, upcoming events, etc.

It is important that you familiarise yourself with our page as soon as possible.

We hope you continue to enjoy using our page regularly and engaging in your child's school life.

Winter Uniform

As it is now Term 2, all students must wear their full school uniform, which is their winter uniform. Please ensure that your child has the full correct school uniform. The uniform list can be found in the student diary and in the Junior School Handbook. Any missing items can be purchased from the school uniform shop. If the weather is unseasonably warm (above 25 degrees) students may choose to wear either their summer uniform or full school uniform.

Students who are not dressed in the correct uniform need to have a signed note in their school diary from a parent/guardian explaining the reason. A note shall not be regarded as sufficient explanation for continued variation to the uniform. Such students will be issued with a Breach of Uniform notice by their coordinator.

It must also be noted that all school uniform items must display the correct logo.

Student Stationery Supplies

It has become increasingly obvious that students are bringing various distractors to school in the form of excess stationery, fiddle toys and small figurines. We would like to remind parents to only supply the stationery items as listed on the book list to ensure learning time is maximised.

Important Dates

Monday 9 May	Staughton Vale
Monday 16 – Wednesday 18 May	School Photos
Tuesday 24 May	Athletics Carnival
Monday 13 June	Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday
Friday 17 June	End of Term Two

Classroom Teacher's Email Addresses

Dean Taravillo	bowdens@bmg.vic.edu.au
Angela Price	pricea@bmg.vic.edu.au
Courtney Williams	williamsc@bmg.vic.edu.au

If you have any further questions, please feel free to discuss with your classroom teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Angela Price
Year 4 Coordinator

Sally Savic
Head of Junior School