

The 3/4 Times

Vol 4, Issue 4

October, 2015

NEWS THIS TERM

In news this term, our focus for Inquiry is on 'How we share our planet', we look at some information on camp, and the lowdown on how Parkhill helps students transition into the year ahead. All this and more, in the fantastic 3/4 Times.

Your teachers of Grade 3 and 4,

Dyon Hunt, Dora Handby, Alex Davis and Karla Bower

CAMP!

Camp is soon approaching and before you know it the Grade 3 and 4 students will be away enjoying a fun filled three days of activities. The Island CYC camp is a great time for both students and teachers to relax and have some fun. Some of the activities students will participate in are: Low ropes course, abseiling, archery, giant swing, mechanical wall and the flying fox. These are a mix of challenging, achievable, creative, individual and teamwork activities. We will also be having some beach time, testing our knowledge with some trivia and a pyjama movie night.

More notices will be coming out before camp such as the Behaviour Contract and the list of what to bring. If you haven't yet brought back medical and dietary forms, please return them to your teacher ASAP as it is essential we receive them.

You can visit the website for any further details: <http://theisland.cyc.org.au/>

REPORTS ARE LOOMING!

TERM 4 is one of those times for tying up loose ends. It's the last chance teachers have to cover the final scraps of the curriculum. It's the last opportunity students have to finish portfolios and get the last pieces of learning done before the Christmas holidays arrive.

Term 4 is also the final chance for students to achieve their personal goals. Some students have academic challenges they are striving to meet. Other students have social difficulties they would like to solve. Some students simply wish to *improve* at something.

So, to all Grade 3 and 4 students: press the pause button on your PS3 and take a moment to listen to your mums and dads! Reports are on the way and your teachers have begun taking notes!

INQUIRY UNIT: HOW WE SHARE OUR PLANET

This term, we will be inquiring into the impact of pollution; that materials are recycled in many different ways and how recycled materials are used. Students have already learnt that pollution doesn't only mean rubbish that is thrown onto the ground, but it comes in different forms such as the burning of fossil fuel, ocean waste and even light pollution.

Students will be having an excursion to CERES Environment Park in Brunswick to consolidate their understanding on sustainability.

As part of homework this term, students will be engaging in their creative sides to plan, design and construct a model out of recyclable materials. Students have already learnt about what makes something recyclable and the importance of looking after the environment. In Week 9, students will be presenting their homework to their class. Students will be competing with one another for our House Speaking Competition, in which two students from each House will be chosen to speak in front of their year level. From there, two students will be chosen to speak at our Year 3-6 Parkhill Speaking Finals.

TRANSITION AND WHAT WE ARE DOING TO HELP

ENTERING your new class at the start of the year can be a daunting thing – especially for students transitioning to new areas. Not only are there new faces, new subjects and new rules to remember, but students are encouraged to become more and more independent as the learning is getting more and more difficult. The truth is that many parents share their child's anxiety, which can actually worsen the problem by putting unconscious pressure back on the child. Well, here's what Parkhill is doing to help!

Lunches: Grade 3 and 5/6 classes are having guests for lunch! No, they're not eating them... Small groups of Grade 2 and Grade 4 students will be taking it in turns to visit next year's area. This gives those students a chance to see the classrooms and become familiar with their future learning spaces. Having lunch with Grade 3 and Grade 5/6 means they will also be spending time with next year's potential teachers and classmates.

Classroom activities: At scheduled times throughout the term, Grade 3 and Grade 4 students get together with other classes for transition classroom activities. Grade 2 students will spend some time with the Grade 3's and Grade 4 students will spend some time with the Grade 5/6's. They are encouraged to ask questions about all the different things that will happen for them next year and help to identify some of the many differences between the levels. They ask questions, share their excitement and voice their fears. This also gives this year's Grade 3's a chance to take on the roles that they will assume next year as the leaders of the area who will no doubt endeavour to help the new Grade 3 students' transition.

Sport: If you haven't heard about 3/4 Sport, it's been running all year! Its purpose is to help kids get active, but it's also a stepping stone for the Grade 4 students who will be participating in many of the same sports during inter-school sports next year. Soon in 3/4 Sport, the Grade 3's and 4's will host the Grade 2 students and teachers as they join us for the much celebrated tabloid sports!

GARDEN

Heather is our new Garden teacher this term. She will be replacing Carol who has been offered a new job teaching garden at a new school.

Some of the food being cooked this term will be: kale and corn fritters, rice paper rolls and beetroot brownies.



Photo: Athletics Carnival 2015

WIN Groups

Maths Groups will continue this term and will cater for students' individual learning needs with a focus on number strategies.

Important Dates

Science Day: Wednesday 21st October

Superthon: Friday 23rd October

3/4 Camp: Wed 28th, Thurs 29th and Fri 30th of October

Curriculum Day: Monday 2nd November

Melbourne Cup Day: Tuesday 3rd November

20th year Anniversary Parkhill Assembly:

Friday 6th November

Fun Food and Carols: Thursday 3rd December

Parkhill Speaking Finals: 11th December

School Reports: Monday 14th December

Last day of the year: Friday 18th December