

# The 3/4 Times

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## NEWS THIS TERM

In news this term our focus for Inquiry in Year 3 is “How the World Works” and in Year 4 we are exploring “Who We Are”.

We look at some information about camp, and provide some details about student transitions into the school year ahead.

Your teachers of Year 3 and 4,

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## CAMP!

Camp is tomorrow! Both the students and teachers are looking forward to 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: bike riding, abseiling, initiatives, 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 enjoying a pyjamas movie night. The weather is looking like we will need to pack some warmer clothes and a waterproof raincoat is a must.

You will have received notices such as the Behaviour Contract and the list of what to bring, medical and dietary forms and a last minute reminder list. A lot of forms, yes, but all necessary to ensure a successful and safe camp.

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 phases 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 resolve, whilst other students simply wish to *improve* at something.

So, to all Year 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, Year 3's Inquiry Unit will be an inquiry into the natural world and it's laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

Central Idea: The design of a structure depends on its purpose, creative ideas, the location and available materials. The excursion to the Eureka Tower is sure to be a highlight of this unit.

Year 4's Inquiry Unit is: World Cultures, part of “Who We Are”, an inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health, human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.

**Central Idea:** Cultural traditions impact our personal, group and national identities.

The students had a very interesting and informative excursion at CERES Environment Park in Brunswick to gain some understanding of African culture.

## TRANSITION AND WHAT WE ARE DOING TO HELP

ENTERING your new classroom 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 becomes more challenging. 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:** Year 3 and 5 classes are having guests for lunch! No, they're not eating them... Small groups of Year 2 and Year 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 Year 3 and Year 5 means they will also be spending time with next year's potential teachers and classmates.

**Classroom activities:** At scheduled times throughout the term, Year 3 and Year 4 students get together with other classes for transition classroom activities. Year 2 students will spend some time with the Year 3's and Year 4 students will spend some time with the Year 5'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 the current Year 3 students a chance to take on the roles that they will assume next year as the leaders of the area who will no doubt endeavor to help the new Year 3 students' transition.

**SPORT:** If you haven't yet 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 Year 4 students who will be participating in many of the same sports during inter-school sports next year. Soon in 3/4 Sport, the Year 3's and 4's will host the Year 2 students and teachers as they join us for the much celebrated tabloid sports!

We also have our Parkhill Athletics Carnival to prepare for so lots of physical activity happening!!

### GARDEN

Jen continues in the role of Garden Teacher this term. With Spring upon us and the garden thriving she and the children are busy dealing with lots of new growth.

And of course the chickens continue to need our tender, loving care!

### Important Dates

Camp: Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November  
Curriculum Day: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November  
Melbourne Cup Day: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November  
Wacky Wednesday: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November  
Walkathon: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
Athletics Carnival: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Science Week: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Multicultural Day: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November  
Fun Food & Carols: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
School Reports: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Last day of the year: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

