LEVEL LEADER’S WELCOME

Welcome back to the final term of the year. It has been so exciting this year to see all of our children mature, grow and develop over the year both physically and academically.

In Term 3 we were able to watch with pride to see the confidence that our children gained from performing on stage to a large audience during the school concert. Then we saw our students take enormous steps forward in their independence as they attended the Level 3 sleepover, with many children having their first night away from home.

Term 4 is also shaping as a busy time with many events happening across the Level and the school. This term the students will resume with their SMART 8 studies on a Tuesday afternoon. The students have been enjoying the opportunity to mix with children from other levels across the school and hone their skills in specific areas of interest.

Thanks to Mr. Warren, this term some Level 3 students will have the unique opportunity to be involved in a series of cricket clinics, on a Wednesday morning before school. This will culminate in a T20 Gala Day where the students involved will compete in cricket matches against other schools.

Finally, it must not be forgotten that our dedicated staff are writing reports for their classes this term. Each report aims to celebrate the leaning of the individual child and will be sent home on the Monday of the final week of school for the year.
Term Four Inquiry
How the properties of materials determine their usefulness for different purposes?

This Term, as part of our science based inquiry topic, students will be investigating materials and their properties. Learning tasks will focus on the question: ‘How do the properties of materials determine their usefulness for different purposes?’

Through the learning tasks completed in this unit, students will develop the scientific skills of conducting a fair test, recording and comparing data, developing scientific vocabulary and making predictions.

Throughout the term, they will be exploring and conducting tests to investigate the properties of different materials, and how these properties affect their uses. Some of these properties include absorbency rate, tensile strength and decomposition rate. Students will also be learning about natural and processed materials, and how their uses may impact the environment.

After finding out information on the topic, their understanding will be put into action. This will be done by designing and then creating an object with a specific function.

The teaching and learning of our inquiry unit is very hands on, and student centred, where they are expected to work in small teams to predict, carry out, record observations and make inferences about the areas of study.

LEVEL 3 RETHINK EDUCATION CENTRE EXCURSION

As part of our science based inquiry unit this term “Materials: How do the properties of materials determine their usefulness for different purposes?” the Level 3 teachers and students will be visiting the “Rethink Education Centre. During this excursion the students will learn and build upon their knowledge of how materials impact on our world and how we can process natural material into products we use today. Students will participate in a live interactive show about materials and observe materials being processed into products to further improve their learning on the unit of study.
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

READING

As this term’s inquiry unit has a science-based focus, many of our learning tasks in class will relate to this. In reading, students will be looking at the various features of non-fiction texts including glossaries, diagrams, and reading through a procedural text to perform an experiment. Level 3 will continue to do this using the strategies from CAFÉ, whilst also encouraging students to develop their individual passion for reading through providing 20 minutes of independent reading per day.

WRITING

In writing, the children will continue to focus on the skills required to write procedures and reports to help with their understanding of the science topic. Students will conduct a range of experiments which will be recorded and documented in their writing lessons. When children reach the stage of choosing a material to design a particular product, they will then begin to focus on providing supportive evidence in their writing to show the reader why they chose a particular material. As an extension of this learning task, students will also be asked to develop an advertisement for their product which will encourage them to think of creative ways to show their learning. Furthermore, we will also continue to teach explicit handwriting skills, helping them to be more efficient at writing in Victorian Modern Cursive by the time they reach Level 4.

Mathematics

Through continuously integrating our science unit into all subjects, our students will be able to make solid connections to their mathematics this term. By conducting experiments, students will gain insight into the importance of producing data, statistics, and graphs. They will also complete a number of experiments using water and will have the opportunity to apply skills such as measuring temperature, volume, and elapsed time. Of course, through doing this, our children will gain excellent exposure to the concept of using decimals and rounding off to the nearest whole.
**SUNSMART**

During Term 4 it is important to protect ourselves from the harmful rays of the sun. The students are expected to wear a bucket hat, wide-brimmed hat or legionnaires hat. These can be purchased at the school uniform shop. Peaked caps are not to be worn as they offer no protection for the neck and ears. If students are not wearing their hats they have to sit in a designated shaded area.

**WATER BOTTLES**

The students are allowed to bring their water bottles into the classroom. Please ensure that the students are able to open it themselves and that the lid is secure. Only water is permitted at the students tables.

**HATLOTTO! HATLOTTO! HATLOTTO!**

Each day at lunchtime a student’s name from each grade level will be drawn out of a raffle. If the student drawn has the appropriate hat and it is named they will receive a free icy-pole!