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**3G Newsletter Term 2, 2013**

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back 3G. I hope you have had an enjoyable break and are looking forward to another productive and enjoyable term.

**Term Units (HSIE)**

This term, our unit of work is ‘People and their beliefs’. This gives students in **Year 3** the opportunity to explore major religions and belief codes and how these influence individuals and groups. A term mini-project will also be issued in week 4 and due in week 8.

**Talking and Listening**

The opportunities in Term 1 to present topics in class and improve public speaking skills has given 3G students a positive platform to prepare for this term’s ‘Multicultural Public Speaking Competition’. Students will have to research and talk about a chosen theme from a list of multicultural topics and present their speech to the class in week 5 on a set day. Three of the best prepared and delivered speeches will be chosen to progress to the school competition in week 6. The school winners will then progress to a regional competition. More information will be sent home in a note this week.

**NAPLAN**

Naplan testing will be held on the following dates in week 3.

* **Tuesday 14 May 2013 –** Language Conventions 40 minutes and Writing 40 minutes
* **Wednesday 15 May 2013 –** Reading 45 minutes
* **Thursday 16 May 2013 –** Numeracy 45 minutes

**Important Dates – Check the school website for changes.**

* **Cross Country – Monday 6 May (Morning 9-11am)**
* **Open Day – Thursday 9 May (Morning 9-12.30pm)**
* **NAPLAN – As above**
* **Excursion Macquarie ICT Robotics – Tuesday 11 June (All day). Note to follow 2 weeks prior.**

**Literacy**

**Reading** groups will continue as usual on Monday to Wednesday mornings. The students will rotate through a variety of different activities including; guided reading, independent reading, grammar and comprehension activities.. **Writing** this term will revise last term’s work on persuasive writing and information reports in preparation for NAPLAN. Writing tasks will also be linked to our HSIE work. Explicit **grammar** skills will also be taught and practised in class.

**Handwriting**

Explicit handwriting printing and cursive skills will be taught to the students and will complement our text book Targeting Handwriting. The students are progressing well and appear to enjoy this work.

**Spelling**

Spelling will involve a Monday pre-test and class spelling activities. Spelling will always be included in weekly homework. Dictation assessments using our spelling words will happen on Thursday. Whilst we discuss the words in class, children will also need some assistance in practising their spelling at home.

**Maths**

The students will be involved in a range of practical and written activities in the areas of number, patterns and algebra, space and geometry, chance and measurement. Maths homework will be on a weekly basis utilising both their mentals book, and an increasing emphasis will be on using the valuable tools offered through the ‘Mathletics’ website also. Please continue to assist your child in their learning of times tables as multiplication forms the basis of math development in terms 3 and 4.

**Crunch and Sip**

I encourage all students to bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable each day for our 10.10am Crunch and Sip break. Please pack a small container with cut up fruit or veg for your child to eat at this time. Please prepare some form of fruit break for your child as it adds to their positive development.

**Sport and Fitness**

Year 3 students are eligible to trial for our winter PSSA sports teams in both soccer and netball. This term, the inter-school PSSA district competition will be held on Friday afternoons (weather permitting). Students will be required to wear their sports uniforms on Tuesday and Friday,

**Library**

Our class library session will continue on Thursday morning. I encourage all parents and guardians to remind their children to borrow regularly from the vast range of books available when the school library is open on Thursday and Fridays.

**Homework**

Homework re-commences in week 2. We will continue to use a grid style homework sheet which will be given out every **Monday** and expected to be returned by **Friday**. Thank you to those students who have consistently handed in their homework on time. Any student who is unable to do so requires a brief written explanation at the bottom of the homework grid sheet from their parents or guardians.

**Class Stationery List**

Our class has a limited supply of stationary so it would be greatly appreciated if the following items could be replenished for your child. Stationary items (including their pencil cases) should be clearly labelled. Children are responsible for their own items.

1. 1 A4 Document wallet (for homework)
2. 1 A4 Refillable display book with plastic inserts (for class)
3. 1 A4 clipboard folder (for excursions)
4. 1 A4 exercise book (Homework book)
5. 4 writing pencils,
6. a highlighter,
7. 12 pack coloured pencils,
8. glue stick,
9. scissors,
10. a 30cm ruler (not the bendable kind),
11. a sharpener,
12. an eraser,
13. A box of Tissues.

**Punctuality**

School starts at **9:10am**. Late arrivals need to be recorded at the office before the child joins the class. Arriving late for school can be very unsettling for the student concerned and at times can disturb the rest of the class.

**Uniform**

Please remember to adhere to the school uniform rules. If there are reasons for a student not having their uniform please send a note explaining why. Please label your child’s hat and clothing to ensure we can return lost items.

**Absences**

As a Department of Education legal requirement, please be sure to send in notes for full day and partial absences immediately on return to school. Any extended absences for holidays whereby your child will be away at least **15 school days** will require you to advise the school office well in advance.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with queries or wish to discuss anything that is of concern. I am contactable by class note, or email / telephone messages to the school. Alternatively you may request an appointment to see me through the front office whereby I will make all efforts to accommodate you.

Kind regards,

Christian Guzman

Year 3 Class Teacher