



Year 3 & 4 Class



Welcome to our Year 3/4 Class. My name is Penny Sarah (Sarah is my surname) and the children call me Miss Penny.

Welcome to the new children and families who have come from other Year 2 and 3 classes in the school and also the children who were in this class as Year 3's and are now big year 4's!

We will be learning about the values that make our classroom and school a happy and safe place to be. We will then make our classroom rules from these. We'll also remind ourselves how to be powerful learners, such as being brave, having a go, staying calm, putting in our best effort and having a positive attitude to learning.

Our curriculum areas are planned from the Australian National Curriculum and include English, Mathematics, Science, Health and Physical Education, History, Geography, Digital & Design Technology, Civics and Citizenship and the Arts which includes Visual Arts, Dance, Music and Drama. We also teach the Keeping Safe Curriculum and Social and Emotional Learning.

Our school uses whole school approaches for a number of curriculum areas that ensure a smooth transition throughout the school for the children with their learning. These whole school approaches are used in reading, writing, word Study and mathematics.

Term Dates:

Week 2

Whole school assembly
Friday 8th February

Week 3

Pupil free day Monday 11th
February

Acquaintance Night

Wednesday 13th February

Week 6

Parent/teacher interviews
Monday - Thursday

Primary assembly

Thursday 7th March

Pupil free day Friday 8th
March

Week 7

Adelaide Cup Holiday

Monday 11th March

Excursion to State Library

Wednesday 13th March

Week 8

Harmony Day Assembly

Friday 22nd March at
11.30am

Week 10

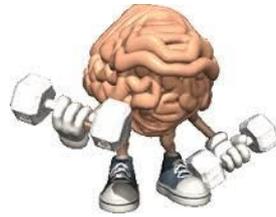
Whole school assembly
Friday 5th April

Week 11

Last day of school Friday



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Classroom Organisation

Absences – before 8.50am please call the office or send a notification via school bag if your child will not be attending school. Children must not have more than 3 days absent without a sick certificate or the school being notified. If your child is going to be away from school for any length of time or if you are travelling interstate/overseas there is an important exemption form to be filled in before you go.

Medication – all medication, including things such as creams and cough lollies must go to the front office for safe keeping. They must have written instructions on how they are to be used and be signed by a parent/caregiver.

Food and water – we are a nut aware school so please do not send food with nuts in it. We only allow water in the classroom, any other drinks must be drunk outside. We encourage eating healthy food at school as foods high in sugar and food colourings can make some children moody, hyperactive and effect their learning.

Children can order their lunch from Villis. We have a lunch box with bags in the classroom. We have a price list also. Please ask if you would like some bags sent home.

Brain Break – we have a short break in the morning to go for a run and refresh and nourish our brains with some healthy fresh fruit and vegetables. Please send along something that is easy to eat with fingers.



Tissues – we would appreciate it if each family donates one box of tissues. This saves our classroom budget for learning materials.

Library Day – our library borrowing day is Thursday. Children can also return and borrow books at lunch time.



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Assembly – assemblies are held every second week on Fridays of the even school weeks. They start at 2.15pm and you are very welcome to join us. Please check the school's fortnightly newsletter for any changes to the days or times of assemblies.

Excursions – we have several excursions booked this year as well as an overnight stay at the zoo for Year 4's called the 'Zoo Snooze'.

Term 1 – as part of the children's learning in Civics and Citizenship we will visit the State Library on Wednesday 13th March and do a programme called 'To Be a Leader'. The children will explore and identify the role and characteristics of a leader. They will discover the similarities and difference between rules and laws and the importance of making decisions democratically.

Term 2 – in History, the children will be learning about the First Fleet and so we'll be visiting the Maritime Museum at Port Adelaide on Friday 21st June.

Term 3 – to conclude the term of learning in Science, the children will spend the day at the zoo and the Year 4's will sleep overnight at the Zoo to do the Zoo Snooze programme.

We may also book some other excursions throughout the year. Parents are welcome to volunteer and come on excursions with us to help with the supervision of the children.

Morning Routine 8.50am

- Lunch orders in the box
- Fruit put on desks
- Drink bottles put on desks
- Take Home Books in trays
- Any notes or money handed to the teacher

Homework

Your child has 20 minutes of reading homework to do Monday – Thursday. This is the most important homework to do.

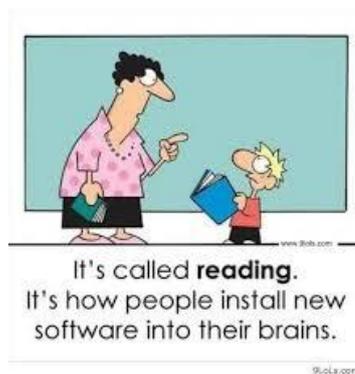
There are some online programmes your child can do at home if they wish but they are not compulsory. The information and usernames/passwords will be put in your child's Take Home book as we get them.

I also set a homework task once a week, on a Thursday, for your child to complete and share with the class the following Thursday.



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Your child has a Take Home Book which is used for homework and notes. Please send this book to school every day and check this book regularly. You are welcome to write notes to me in this book and I'll send home a note to you if there's something important that you should know.



The most important part of homework is to listen to your child read each day. The 'Adding **10 Minutes a Day**' flier is one example of the benefits of reading – a child who reads for 10 minutes a day will be exposed to around 650,000 words in a year. Add 10 minutes to that and read for 20 minutes a day and a child will be exposed to around 13,000,000 words in a year!

Literacy Pro - this is an online programme that assesses your child's reading level and allows them to select books to read at their level. This level is called a Lexile Level. The Lexile Level is an indicator of the complexity of text a child is able to read. Your child will then begin selecting their books from the library, rather than from the numbered boxes, using their Lexile Level. Of course, they can still borrow books from the numbered boxes in the corridor as well, if they would like to, as they transition from one system to another. Your child can borrow a book 100 points below and up to 50 points above their Lexile Level – for example, if your child's Lexile Level is 450, they can borrow books with a Lexile range from 350 – 500.

The Literacy Pro Programme includes a Library and True Flix, which all children have access to. In the Library, your child can download books to read and then complete the quiz for each book. The quiz can also be done for books your child borrows from the library.

Interviews and Reports

Interviews will be held in Week 6 this term and Reports come home at the end of Term 2 and Term 4. Interpreters are available for interviews so please let us know if you would like one when it is time to book.

NAPLAN

In Term 2, the Year 3 children will sit the NAPLAN tests which are a national assessment for all students in Year 3, 5, 7 & 9. There are 4 tests, Reading, Writing, Numeracy and Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation). All children do this test unless there are special circumstances.



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Seesaw

This is an app that you can download onto your phone or iPad. This app allows you to view the posts about the children and their learning. You can also post notes to me and I can answer them. Information about how to download and use Seesaw is in your child's Take Home Book.



Making a time to see me – if you wish to talk to me, please make a time and we can chat before or after school without interruptions.

Curriculum Overview for Term 1:

English

- Reading – silent reading, guided reading using the whole school approach to reading comprehension strategies, fluency, decoding skills and the development of vocabulary
- Writing – the genres this term are Narrative and Exposition (Argument) and the children will practice punctuation and develop the specific skills in grammar for writing these texts
- Word Study – Words Their Way, dictionary skills, word study tasks
- Speaking and Listening – the focus this term will be on partner work and whole class sharing

Maths

- Mental computation strategies
- Number and place value, odd and even numbers/skip counting/less than, greater than
- Addition and subtraction, fact families
- Graphing
- Maths On Line
- Reflex Maths – fact fluency practice

Maths Monster – we have a Maths Monster bag that will come home as part of our homework programme. This programme helps make Maths relevant in the daily lives of children. Each day, one child, takes the Maths Monster home to complete a task and then brings it back to school to share the next day. When the Maths Monster comes to visit your house, you can find the instructions inside the book.



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Civics and Citizenship – This term the learning will be about rules and laws. Why do we have rules and who makes them? The children will then learn about the role of the local government and the decisions it makes on behalf of its community. We'll visit the State Library to participate in a day of learning about leadership. The children will explore and identify the role and characteristics of a leader. They will discover the similarities and differences between rules and laws and the importance of making decisions democratically.

Geography – The children will be learning about Australian states/territories and capital cities. They'll then look further afield to discover Australia's neighbours, New Zealand and South East Asia. They'll also learn about the continents of Africa and South America and the location of their countries in relation to Australia.

Science – The children will be learning about how heat can be produced by friction, motion, electricity or chemical burning and can move from one object to another through the process of conduction. They'll also learn that a change of state between solid and liquid can be caused by adding or removing heat.

Visual Arts – Gail Glasper

Our focus in visual art throughout this term will be centred on colour, line, shape and texture. We will begin the year by working on self-portraits.

I am looking forward to seeing all the fantastic artworks that will be created this term.

PE – Daniel Nguyen

This term students in Year 3 & 4 will be developing teamwork, communication and group cooperation through modified yard games. Students will also focus on attacking and defending.

Performing Arts, Music – Poppy Cumiskey

Students will demonstrate their understanding of rhythm, pitch, dynamics and expression by singing, playing instruments and improvising using these musical elements.

Italian – Rob Cherin

Students will practice listening, translating and responding in the Italian language. Students will continue to explore elements of Italian culture, past and present through traditional stories, music, art and craft as guided by the Australian Curriculum (ACARA) for LOTE / Italian. Lesson activities throughout Term 1 will build on the foundations of Italian language, grammar and punctuation as practiced throughout 2018.

I'm looking forward to a happy and productive year!

Penny Sarah