

## Stage 2 Overview – Term 3, 2022

Dear Stage 2 Parents, Carers and Students,

After a very busy last term, we'd love to welcome you back to a wonderful Term 3!

### HOMework

Once again, we have provided students a **new** and refreshed homework grid for this term. Activities 1, 2 and 3 are required to be completed weekly, for spelling, reading and times tables practise. Mathspace will continue to be updated with new activities, which will reflect the topics learned in class. Homework books are **required** to be turned in on Fridays to receive new homework spelling lists on Monday.

Please note: Mathspace has changed its login system to be the same as the Department of Education (DoE). Students' usernames will be their DoE email and their password will be their DoE password.

### YEAR 4 PEN LICENCES

This term, students in Year 4 will be eligible to receive their pen licence. They will be given out based on **overall** bookwork neatness and legibility. Once a student has their pen licence, they will be able to use **blue ballpoint** for writing and **red ballpoint** for editing, in all subjects except mathematics, which we will continue to use lead pencil. Students will continue to participate in handwriting lessons, where they will learn NSW cursive.

### ENGLISH

Students are continuing to learn to write informative texts and this term, we will be focusing on writing explanation texts and reading a range of non-fiction. This will include using precise descriptive language, technical vocabulary, effectively using images such as diagrams and flow charts, as well as using tools such as glossaries, indexes and timelines.

#### *Literacy Rotations*

Students will work in groups as they rotate through a variety of literacy activities including comprehension, guided reading and response to text, spelling activities following the 'Sound Waves' program, grammar activities that align with what will be taught in class, as well as writing prompts.

## MATHEMATICS

Students will cover content from all three mathematical strands: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Students will participate in activities to support and extend their knowledge in small groups, individually or with the teacher. Students will also have opportunities to partake in mathematical investigations and problem-solving tasks. At home, students will have access to Mathspace. Mathspace is an interactive online mathematics program which will consolidate mathematical concepts taught in class.

This term, students will learn about:

- Angles
- Algorithmic addition and subtraction
- Mass (using grams and kilograms)
- Decimals
- Volume and capacity (using millilitres and litres)
- Multiplication and division strategies; times tables
- Chance
- Patterns and algebra

More information about these topics can be accessed through the Stage 2 NSW mathematics syllabus:

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/mathematics/mathematics-k-10/content>

## HISTORY

This term, students in Stage 2 will be learning about early exploration through the history unit: 'Explorers'. They will evaluate the impact and significance of early world navigators on trade, and indigenous populations and societies around the world. Students will study the voyages undertaken by early explorers, including the first European explorers to Australia, and discuss the question: 'Who discovered Australia?'

## STEAM

Students will participate in hands-on STEAM for 1 hour per fortnight with Mrs Loxton. These lessons will focus on 'Earth and Space'. Science lessons that cover the theoretical side of the syllabus will be taught by the classroom teacher in the alternate week.

## CREATIVE ARTS

### *Music and Visual Arts*

Students will participate in music and visual arts for 1 hour per fortnight with either Ms MacDonald for music, or Mrs Bowman for visual arts.

### *Drama*

This term, students will be participating in a drama unit titled 'Alien Explorers' with their classroom teachers. The unit links in with students' focus on earth and space in STEAM and ties to our broad semester theme of 'exploration'. Students will be learning about the elements of drama including movement, voice skills and space, when improvising and performing scripted dramas. The unit has a focus on reader's theatre to support literacy learning, in particular reading fluency.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### *PSSA / PCYC / School Sport*

Starting in Week 1, students will be participating in coordinated sport on Friday afternoons, either remaining at school for school sport, walking to the PCYC Balmain, or by bus to PSSA soccer or PSSA netball.

### *Fitness*

Each class will participate in class fitness sessions and games once per week, which will build on their fundamental movement skills. Stage 2 classes will participate in cricket lessons run by their classroom teacher.

### *PDH*

This term, students will complete a unit about 'How medicines and drugs affect me'. The unit will contain information about common medications, making healthy choices that affect physical and mental health, the effects on the body of drugs such as tobacco and alcohol, as well as discuss the contextual factors influencing personal choices and decisions around health, safety and physical activity.

## CLASSROOM ITEMS

While Stage 2 classrooms do provide some communal items, please ensure your child has the following in their small pencil case:

- 2 x HB lead pencils
- 2 x highlighters (preferably different colours)
- 1 x eraser
- 1 x glue stick

- 1 x 30 cm ruler (non-foldable)
- 1 x pencil sharpener
- 2 x whiteboard markers (preferably in different colours)

If possible, please donate to your class:

- Tissue box

Please note that whiteout is not permitted.

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Kind Regards,

Ms Amelia Cooper, Mrs Amanda Pitman and Ms Katie Withers - Stage 2 teachers