

Stage 3 Overview – Term 1, 2023

Dear Stage 3 students, parents and carers,

Welcome to a new year at Balmain Public School. We hope that you have had a restful break and are ready for an exciting Term 1! The United Nations has declared 2023 as the 'International Year of the Millet', therefore, our class names will be centered around this theme and we will begin the year with a discussion around the significance of this theme.

ENGLISH

During our literature unit, students will be focusing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in relation to British colonisation, land ownership, peace, conflict and environmental sustainability. This unit will be supplemented by a core text, *'Nanberry, Black Brother White'*, by Jackie French. **This text does not need to be purchased.** During reading, students will use the 'Super Six' comprehension strategies to critically examine how an author can effectively create meaning through use of literary devices. Students will be developing their persuasive writing skills using the Seven Steps to Writing Success program alongside their novel study.

Literacy Rotations

Students will work in groups as they rotate through the following activities:

- Guided reading
- Spelling - *Sound Waves program*
- Comprehension
- Self-Organised Learning Environments (SOLE)
- Grammar
- Writing

MATHEMATICS

Stage 3 students will be covering the following sub-strands embedded in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability:

- Whole Number
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions and Decimals
- Patterns and Algebra
- Length
- Area
- Volume and Capacity
- Data



Students will also complete regular Mathematical investigations, in order to demonstrate their ability to Work Mathematically.

HISTORY

Australia as a Nation: Actions for Aboriginal Rights

This unit explores the development of Australia as a nation, after 1901, focusing on the struggles for equality and freedoms faced by Indigenous Peoples over time. They will examine the factors that led to the progression of Indigenous rights and freedoms throughout the twentieth century. Students will understand that human rights have not always been/are not always equal. In this unit of work the term 'Indigenous' is used to refer to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

To complement this unit, students will be watching the movie 'Rabbit-Proof Fence', rated PG, during the term. A permissions form for this will be distributed early in the term.

Science

Energy and transformations

This term, students will be engaging with energy transformations and systems. Each week through hands-on investigations, students will explore a range of different energy systems. Beginning with examining the energy transformations that occur when two moving objects collide, students will work towards disassembling, analysing and reassembling a hand powered torch at the end of the term.

STEAM

Students will participate in STEAM lessons with Ms Loxton this term. Across the unit, they will be learning how computers use binary code to transmit data. Students will connect their understanding of binary to Boolean logic and will demonstrate their understanding using the 'Minecraft' application as they build Redstone (electric) logic gates. Finally, students will revise their knowledge of energy as they prepare for a summative project that will begin in term 2.

ProjectNEST

This semester, students will engage in ProjectNEST, a project-based learning unit encompassing mini-outcomes driven by our English and History learning outcomes. The driving question that students will explore is: *'How can we keep culture alive?'*

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PDHPE)

This term students will participate in weekly fitness and PDH lessons with Mr Baumann. The lessons will aim to teach students how to work together, and improve their social and verbal skills as well as overall fitness, flexibility and strength.

Footsteps

Students will be participating in the Footsteps dance program from Weeks 3-11 this term. Footsteps uses dance as a vehicle to develop students' social skills, confidence and creativity. Students will experience various dance styles including hip hop, funk, modern pop, contemporary, partner and various multicultural dances from around the world.

Students learn to dance both individually and with a partner, promoting social interaction and confidence building, as well as improved fitness, coordinating and gross motor skills.

*Child Protection**

Students will learn to:

- develop and build on existing skills in recognising and responding to unsafe situations
- seek assistance effectively
- establish and maintain respectful and equal relationships
- strengthen attitudes and values related to equality, respect and responsibility

**with class teacher*

CREATIVE ARTS

Visual Arts and Music

Students will continue to participate in visual arts with Mrs Bowman on a fortnightly basis. The music program for 2023 will be taught by class teachers, and will include a range of activities that cover composition, appreciation and performance.

HOMEWORK

Homework tasks will be set per term, in the form of a grid. Students will be required to turn in their homework books every **Thursday** ready to receive the next week's homework on **Friday**. An A4 sized exercise book will be required for homework (**these will need to be purchased**).

TIMES TABLES

Students are expected to have a complete recall of times tables from 1-12. As students progress through mathematical concepts, it will be important for them to be able to focus on the concept rather than the working out of times tables. Please revise at home regularly.

CLASSROOM ITEMS

All Stage 3 students will have their own tote tray in the classroom to store their belongings.

Each student will require the following items:

- 2 x Blue ballpoint pens
- 2 x Red ballpoint pens
- 2 x Black artline pens
- 2 x HB lead pencils
- 2 x Highlighters preferably in different colours
- 1 x Eraser
- 1 x Glue stick
- 1 x 30 cm ruler
- 1 x Scissors
- 2 x Whiteboard markers
- 1 x Pencil sharpener
- 1 x Homework book - A4 with lines.
- 1 x *Small* pencil case (it will need to fit in the tote tray along with other items)

Optional - to donate to the class communal supply:

- Coloured pencils
- Coloured textas
- Black artline markers
- **Tissue box**
- **Wet wipes**
- Hand sanitiser

Please note that whiteout is not permitted.

Kind Regards

Ms Chiang, Mr Elix and Ms Burke

Stage 3 teachers