



# VARDYS ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality Education in a Caring Environment

**Address:** Vardys Road, Kings Langley, NSW 2147  
**Telephone:** (02) 9624 3051  
**Fax:** (02) 9838 7048  
**Email:** [vardysroad-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:vardysroad-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
**Website:** [www.vardysroad-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.vardysroad-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

19th February 2019

## STAGE 2 – 2019 PARENT INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to 2019 at Vardys Road. Each of our 6 Stage 2 classes, caring for 164 students, have bonded and are on track for a year of engaged learning as they strive and thrive together. Our Stage 2 teachers are looking forward to working in partnership with you in their education. Your teachers for 2019 are:

|             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
| 3/4 Scarlet | Mrs Catherine D'Chong (Assistant Principal)            | <a href="mailto:catherine.dchong@det.nsw.edu.au">catherine.dchong@det.nsw.edu.au</a>   |
| 3/4 Rose    | Miss Rachel Bernays                                    | <a href="mailto:rachel.kearns2@det.nsw.edu.au">rachel.kearns2@det.nsw.edu.au</a>   |
| 3/4 Ruby    | Mr Tim Uren  | <a href="mailto:timothy.uren2@det.nsw.edu.au">timothy.uren2@det.nsw.edu.au</a>   |
| 3/4 Crimson | Miss Alicia Rankine and<br>Mr Tim Bromhead (Thurs-Fri) | <a href="mailto:alicia.rankine1@det.nsw.edu.au">alicia.rankine1@det.nsw.edu.au</a><br><a href="mailto:timothy.bromhead2@det.nsw.edu.au">timothy.bromhead2@det.nsw.edu.au</a> |
| 3/4 Cherry  | Miss Nasha Kapadia                                     | <a href="mailto:nasha.kapadia@det.nsw.edu.au">nasha.kapadia@det.nsw.edu.au</a>   |
| 3/4 Poppy   | Miss Chantelle Bartolo                                 | <a href="mailto:chantelle.bartello1@det.nsw.edu.au">chantelle.bartello1@det.nsw.edu.au</a>   |

This year, Stage 2 has followed a composite model for its class structure. All NSW Syllabus documents are stage based and every class works through the same content at a rate that is based on student needs, with students working through a cyclical program over two years.

Composite classes have been shown to help both older and younger students with confidence, help develop collaborative learning skills and foster independent working habits. Leadership, tolerance and cooperation are other important skills better developed in composite classes. Our Stage 2 staff believe that the most important factors on student performance and welfare are teacher student relationships, clear success criteria, comprehensive formative and summative assessment and quality explicit teaching. Your child's growth will be maximised if they know where they are on their learning journey, what they are aiming for and how they are going to get there.

Below is a brief overview of this year's work, procedures and expectations:

### ENGLISH

The English curriculum consists of Speaking & Listening, Reading & Viewing, Writing & Representing, Handwriting & Digital Technologies, Spelling & Grammar, Punctuation & Vocabulary.

- *Speaking & Listening* - Our aim is to develop confidence as oral communicators. Students will prepare talks, and present tasks and projects as part of the History, Geography and STEM units.
- *Reading & Viewing* – Modelled, guided and independent reading activities are planned during Focus on Reading literacy sessions, which will concentrate on comprehension skills and the Super Six reading strategies. In addition, reading will be shared during lessons in other Key Learning Areas.
- *Writing & Representing* - Writing experiences are taught both explicitly and within the History, Geography and STEM units. The children will be taught specific ways of writing for various situations. Equally important, is teaching children that writing has a specific purpose and that the style of writing suits the reason/purpose for which they are writing.
- *Handwriting & Digital Technologies* - In Stage 2, Year 3 will begin using joins and develop foundation cursive writing. Year 4 will continue using cursive writing in their work. A Pen Licence will be given to Year 4 children in Semester 2, when they show proficiency and neatness in cursive writing using a pencil.

Digital Technologies are integrated throughout curriculum areas in addition to a one-hour set time in the computer lab each week.

- *Spelling* – Stage 2 staff will be following our school's new Phonics Scope and Sequence. This will involve the explicit teaching of a synthetic phonics program. Instruction and resources will be differentiated by the teacher to cater for the individual student's learning needs. Our school will once again participate in The Premier's Spelling Bee Challenge later in the year.

## MATHEMATICS

The strands of Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability form the basis of our work in Mathematics. Working mathematically is an important element of each strand; it incorporates problem solving related to everyday situations. Daily lessons will involve counting and numeration activities with a mental computation focus. Many learning experiences will be activity based and children will write, draw and explain their calculations as part of the Mathematics lesson.

## HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY AND STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS)

|  | Semester 1               |   | Semester 2                      |                       |
|--|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>History and Geography</b>           | First Contacts (History) | Australia, You're Standing In It! (Geography) | Living in Communities (History) | Chocolate (Geography) |
| <b>STEM (Science &amp; Technology)</b> | Plants in Action         | Digital Technologies                          | Night and Day                   | Heating Up            |

## LIBRARY

Library times for the classes are:

|                      |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 3/4 Poppy – Tuesday  | 3/4 Rose – Wednesday | 3/4 Ruby – Monday    |
| 3/4 Crimson – Monday | 3/4 Cherry – Tuesday | 3/4 Scarlet – Monday |

Please send a bag for borrowing books on each of these days. We would also like to encourage all children to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge.

## HOMEWORK

Our school is currently conducting a review of Homework within the school. It is important to remember the importance of reading at home. Encouraging and supporting your child to routinely read each night with foster a love of reading and assist them greatly in their learning. Students are also encouraged to complete 15 minutes of online Mathletics activities each night.

## EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

- Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on April 3. Please take advantage of this opportunity to talk individually to your child's teacher.
- NAPLAN Assessment for Year 3 will be held the fortnight commencing May 14 in Term 2.
- OC Test – July 31 (Term 3)
- ICAS University competition information and test dates will be sent home this term. The following tests are available: Mathematics, English, Writing and Spelling. These tests are designed and intended for participation by high achieving students only.
- The Stage 2 excursion – March 20. All 6 classes will participate in The Rocks Walking Tour at Circular Quay. The note providing further information has been distributed.
- Please encourage your child to bring the correct equipment to school each day. Please ensure that all significant items are labelled.

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT SCHOOL

- Please familiarise yourself with the School Conduct Code and the levelled card system, a copy of which will be sent home shortly.
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress or wellbeing please contact the class teacher or Assistant Principal.

- Please be aware that the School Counsellor and Wellbeing Officer are available to provide additional support if needed.

The teachers of Stage 2, 2019 are looking forward to a wonderful and exciting year with all that we have to offer our students at Vardy's Road Public School. Our aim is to make sure every child strives for their best, thrives in a supportive environment and engages in their work.

Ian Short  
Principal

Catherine D'Chong  
Assistant Principal