



VARDYS ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality Education in a Caring Environment

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18th February 2019

STAGE 3 - 2019 PARENT INFORMATION

Welcome to 2019 at Vardys Road Public School! Stage 3 teachers are looking forward to teaching your children and being partners with you in their education. Your teachers are:

5/6 Aqua	Miss Beck Anderson	rebecca.anderson41@det.nsw.edu.au
5/6 Cobalt	Miss Heather Grosvenor	heather.grosvenor2@det.nsw.edu.au
5/6 Indigo	Mrs Megan Guerrero	megan.guerrero1@det.nsw.edu.au
5/6 Sapphire	Mrs Pam Parkinson	pamela.parkinson1@det.nsw.edu.au

Stage 3 students are spread over four classes. The outcomes for each curriculum area are predominately Stage based and the Stage 3 curriculum therefore, rarely differentiates between Years 5 & 6. Within any classroom, students exhibit a wide range of skills and abilities. Each classroom will cater for individual differences in ability and performance through grouping and other strategies. This will allow remediation for students experiencing difficulty and enrichment initiatives for students requiring extension. Provisions will be made for different learning styles and within each class the students will develop academically whilst gaining independence in their learning habits.

Below is a brief overview of this year's activities, procedures and expectations.

INTEGRATED TOPICS AND SCIENCE UNITS

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Integrated Topic	The Right to Be Human	People of the World	The Lucky Country	Natural Disasters
Writing Focus	Persuasive	Informative	Imaginative	Poetry
Science/STEM	A Fantastic World of Food	Digital Technology	Strength of Forces	Earthquake Explorers

HOMEWORK

The Homework Policy is being reviewed this year across Vardys Road. Homework will not have a main focus on a spelling list and 'look, cover, write, check' activities but rather the strategies behind the words. Research shows homework should be engaging and not just a weekly routine. It should link to classroom studies and include independent activities, needing minimal parental involvement. We will be sending out parent surveys and hold forums for parental input. Students will also be asked for weekly feedback on homework activities. Homework in Stage 3 is particularly important as it helps to prepare students for the workload high school brings. Homework trials will officially begin in Week 5.

CAMP

In Term 3, we will once again have the opportunity to attend a three-day/two-night 'Great Aussie Bush Camp' in Kincumber. There is a huge array of 'challenge by choice' activities each student will get to experience including a mud run, high rope course and canoeing. This excursion is always a time of fun and bonding for the students who benefit greatly from the social interaction with both their peers and teachers. The dates for the camp are Monday 12th August to Wednesday 14th August. This will definitely be the highlight of their school year and should not be missed! More information will be sent home in due course.

SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOLS

Year 6 students who have completed the application forms in 2018 will sit the test on Thursday 14th March 2019. Information regarding the online application process for Year 5 students wishing to sit for the Selective High School test in 2020 will be available in Term 3. No late applications will be accepted.

SMOOTH WALKING

Seven Hills High School offers a 'high school experience' program for Year 6 students in Term 1 and to Year 5 students in Term 4. This one-day event allows our students to get a 'taste' of what to expect from high school and is always an enjoyable day for all involved.

STAGE 3 NOTICEBOARD

The Stage 3 noticeboard, located outside 'N' Block, will have details regarding high school information evenings, open days etc. for various local high schools. This information will also be published in the school newsletter, on the Skoolbag App and on our official Facebook page; however, students should check the noticeboard regularly. Teachers will also showcase student work and photos during the year to celebrate our Stage 3 students.

STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Student/Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday 3rd April. Please utilise this time to meet with your child's teacher. You are always welcome to arrange a meeting with the class teacher and/or Stage Supervisor at any time throughout the year.

YEAR 6 PROGRAMS

There are many initiatives unique to Year 6. These include Year 6 T-Shirts, Games Day, Dance Item, High School Transition and Year 6 Farewell. Information about these will be provided throughout the year.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date	Additional Information
Selective High School Test	14/03/2019	For Year 6 students who applied in 2018 only
School Photo Day 1	18/03/2019	Class/Individual
School Photo Day 2	28/03/2019	Student Leaders and Year 6
Child/Parent/Teacher Interviews	03/04/2019	
NAPLAN	Term 2, Week 3	Year 5 only
Stage 3 Camp	12/08/2019 to 14/08/2019	
Year 6 Games Day	13/11/2019	
High School Orientation Day	03/12/2019	Year 6 only
Year 6 Farewell	16/12/2019	

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT SCHOOL

- As directed by the Department of Education, all absences must be accounted for within seven days. You may do this by providing a note to your child's teacher explaining your child's absence upon their return to school. Late arrivals (after 9:00am) must go to the office to collect a late slip before going to class.
- Please familiarise yourself with Positive Behaviour for Learning at VRPS, the Awards System and the S.T.A.N.D acronym. The Student Welfare Policy is on the school's website and includes the Level System for behaviour management.
- It is very important that your child always has the correct equipment at school and that ALL equipment is labelled with their name. This also includes their school hat and black school shoes.
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress or wellbeing please contact the class teacher or Stage Supervisor. The School Counsellor and School Wellbeing Officer are available to provide additional support if required.
- Please continue to check the school newsletter, term calendars, the Skoolbag App and Facebook regularly for information, updates and additional school events.

The teachers are excited about the wonderful year planned for Stage 3. We have high expectations of all our students and with all that we have to offer at Vardys Road Public School, we believe that your children will participate with enthusiasm and a growing understanding of how they learn and what it means to be successful. We look forward to seeing our students' efforts to achieve their learning goals.

Ian Short
Principal

Beck Anderson
Assistant Principal (Relieving)