

Welcome to 3/4.

Hello and welcome to 3/4 2022. I am absolutely delighted to be back with this lovely group of children. I'd like to take this opportunity to let you know about some of the things happening in the classroom and our school this year.

Literacy occurs first thing every day. Literacy includes reading, writing, spelling, grammar, comprehension, listening skills.... Some children will be continuing on with the Nessy program that assists with spelling. This is such an important part of the day and I ask that you make it a priority to have the children at school on time to maximise their learning during this literacy time.

Numeracy follows first break and again is such an important part of our day. Numeracy includes things such as number work, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, skip counting, measurement, money, problem solving, etc. Learning our Times Tables will be a BIG focus this year. This is something that can be practiced at home.

Afternoons include lessons in **Music** with Mrs Smith from the conservatorium, **Art**, **Geography** (Terms 1 and 2), **History** (Terms 3 and 4) with Mrs George, **Science**, **PDH** and **Library** on Fridays – this is the day the children can return and borrow from the library with Mrs Howell

Homework is not compulsory but is helpful to your child's learning. The children receive a short spelling list each week. These mainly focus on a sound we are working on in class each week. Spending just 5 or 10 minutes reading and writing these words will make a difference.

Read read, read. Reading to and with your child, or encouraging them to read independently is one of the most beneficial things you can do. It doesn't matter what they are reading, as long as it is something they are enjoying. Our library is well stocked with a variety of books that cover all levels and interests. Please encourage your child to remember their library book each Friday so they can borrow. There is also a variety of books (and levels) on the classroom shelf. I am very happy for the children to borrow these and return them when they are finished. Just 20 minutes a night will make a world of difference.

As I mentioned earlier, we will be focussing on learning our times tables this year. Practising these at home would be excellent

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Garden (SAKG) One of the highlights of making it to Year 3 is to be involved in the SAKG program that we run at school. This involves fortnightly gardening and cooking lessons. Due to Covid we won't be in the kitchen until Term 2, but we are hoping to get into the garden in the next few days.

Zig Zag Public School has always been proud of the way we include all students in all activities. Due to covid, so many of these things have been put on hold over the last 2 years. We all have our fingers crossed that we may be able to do some of these special activities that make our school so unique. We hope we can do peer support, whole school excursions, special days such as book week.... Please keep an eye out on School Bag and Facebook to see what we have coming up.

Occasionally we have had kids coming to school with issues that have been a result of their online activities. Can I ask you that you please be very aware of what your children are doing online and who they are communicating with. Our children live in a very different world to what we grew up in. The internet provides so many wonderful opportunities and access to so much information, but it has also been the cause of some serious problems.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are worried or concerned about something. It is often helpful for me to know if there are things happening at home that could be unsettling or affecting their learning. Any personal information will be kept confidential.

I hope this year is full of learning and laughing in 3/4.

Mrs Sonia Doran