Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to school for another exciting year. The Year 3 team is very excited to start another year with our amazing students, both old and new.

We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are as excited to get stuck into learning as we are!

There are plenty of thrilling things coming up throughout the year to help your learning experiences.

Please ensure you take note of the important information offered in our Year 3 Web feeds.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation from the Year 3 team –

Mr. Jeffrey Wilson – Year 3/4 Neighbourhood Leader

Ms. Krishnan, Miss Allen, Ms. Underwood,

Mrs. Kip, Ms. Watts, Ms. Pontikis and Mr. Jordan.
The Importance of Reading for Learners and Future Learning

Frequent and wide reading according to research has a direct link with successful learning. A high volume of reading throughout the years of compulsory schooling is known to have a high effect in the later years. Students throughout the early and middle years of schooling also need to acquire a range of vocabulary in order to be ready for the later years of schooling. Research suggests that students need to learn approximately 3000 new words each year.

Various researchers state that the richest source for building vocabulary for students who already have literacy is reading. Furthermore research suggests that students need about 5-7 encounters with a new word for it to become part of their language. (Graves, 2006; Wilson, 2012)

At Point Cook College it is encouraged that students have daily home reading routines. This will support the reading teaching that is done at school.

Some things you can do at home:

- Have a daily ritual. Many families have a specific time to read, such as just before bedtime.
- Make a trip to the local library and borrow plenty of books.
- Keep on reading to your children. Students can also build literacy in both English and the other home languages.
- Read packages, read information in the supermarket.
- Use subtitles on the TV.
- Encourage children to carry books that they are reading to and from school, this allows them to continue their reading throughout the day.
- Let your children see you read, be it newspapers, magazines or Internet.

These are just a few examples of possibilities. For further reading: ‘The Reading Bug’ by Paul Jennings is available at Fishpond. For further ideas in helping your child at home the department of education have some free resources at the following address: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/involve/Pages/literacynum.aspx

Looking forward to a great year,

Regards,

Jeff Wilson
Year 3/4 Neighbourhood Leader
Students in Year 3 have access to a range of specialist classes each week. They will rotate through different specialist over the year.

**Physical Education**

In PE this term, year 3 students will be participating in a cooperative games unit. The focus for students will be to work effectively alongside peers to complete small tasks. Within each task, team work and effective communication will be essential for each team to be successful. These skills are viewed as critical qualities moving forward in physical education. Following the cooperative games unit, all students will learn the rules, skills and game strategies required to be successful in the game, Kickball.

Scan this QR code to view a PE semester 1 curriculum summary video of Year 3 at PCCP-9.

**Visual Art**

In Visual Art this semester, students will be introduced to using a Visual Diary to record their artistic processes. Students will explore observational drawing when looking at objects from nature. Whilst looking at nature students will explore the work of artists Fred Williams and John Wolseley. They will respond by creating their own artworks. Students will investigate clay techniques when making a coil plate. **Please note** that students need an old shirt or Art Smock for Visual Art.

**Asian Performing Arts:**

Over the course of this year all Year 3 students will be participating in a new and exciting program ‘Asian Performing Arts’ (APA). This program will allow the students to participate in activities relating to Asian Dance, Music, Theatrical Skills and Health and Well-Being (YOGA). At the end of each semester this will culminate in a ‘Showcase of Learning’.

**Indonesian**

This term in Indonesian, the Y3 students are learning about the life of children in Indonesia, especially what they do at school and at home. They are comparing some of the after school activities such as playing games and doing chores at home. They will also be participating in a cultural activity called ‘Mandi’ in which students get a first-hand experience in taking a bath with cold water from the tap and using a small bucket like in
**Literacy**

Literacy will have a strong focus on reading, comprehension, persuasive texts and narrative. We will be visualising, predicting, making connections, inferring and clarifying when reading to assist in comprehending texts. Our Punctuation focus is: Capital letters, full stops, commas, exclamation marks, quotation marks, paragraphs. Opportunities for speaking and listening will be incorporated and integrated into the classroom program. Spelling and vocabulary will be linked to the individual homeroom program.

**Numeracy**

Our focus in numeracy this Term will be Place Value (naming, writing and modeling numbers), Patterns and Algebra (skip counting, patterns in shapes/objects, identifying missing numbers, etc), time, addition, subtraction and length.

Problem solving and learning a variety of strategies that can be used whilst working mathematically will to be included in math sessions. We encourage students to begin (if not already) working on their **automatic recall** of multiplication facts. We suggest learning these in the following order: 2, 5, 10, 11, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12.

**Inquiry**

This Term Year 3 will focus on the following **focus question**:

How do I change and develop over time?

Questions that will **contribute** to the inquiry are:

‘How do we look after ourselves as we grow?’

‘How do my lifestyle choices effect how I grow?’

‘What impacts my social development?’

‘What makes us different?’

**NAPLAN**

Some parents are eager to receive information about NAPLAN and start preparing their child for this National Assessment. Between May 10th and May 12th students will take four assessments: reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The Year 3 team will prepare students how to complete these assessments to the best of their ability. If you wish to find out more information please access the NAPLAN site.

**Home Learning**

Home Learning during term 1 will consist mostly of the expectation of reading every day. The College Home Learning Policy has been reviewed and will be available soon. Home learning during the year will relate strongly to the iPad program and students will have opportunity to complete a project later on in the year.

**Personal Photos**

To kick start our term, we would like all students to please find a few personal photos of themselves for a special activity. Many students have already brought them in. If individuals could seek out the following three photos by the end of week three. A baby photo, a toddler photo and a recent photo of themselves.

**Sun Smart Policy**

During Term 1 and Term 4 it is a Department of Education Policy that all students adhere to the School Sun Smart Policy. Please ensure that your child has a hat at school during this time. Your child will be required to stay under the shade during play times and miss out on sport if they do not have a hat.

Individual students may also wish to bring in personal sunscreen to be used.

Please be aware this is for personal use only.

We encourage students to bring in a drink bottle filled with water. Students are able to keep these water bottles at their table throughout the day to ensure they stay hydrated.

**School Expectations**

Please refer to the School Website for any details on the school expectations in regards to Uniforms, Late and Early departure from school and Absence.

**1-1 iPad Program**

The 1-1 iPad Program is gradually being integrated into the daily learning of students. Over the next week students will be enrolled in the school network and as such will have access to online learning. All students in year 3 this year will have access to our new learning management system called DB Primary. This system will allow for online, safe and engaging learning. During the year parents will also be able to access this system to view their child’s digital portfolio, give feedback about learning and participate in the learning of their child.

Please discuss with your child that iPads should not be out of bags before or after school and they should handle their bags carefully.