

# Term Planner – Grade 3/4

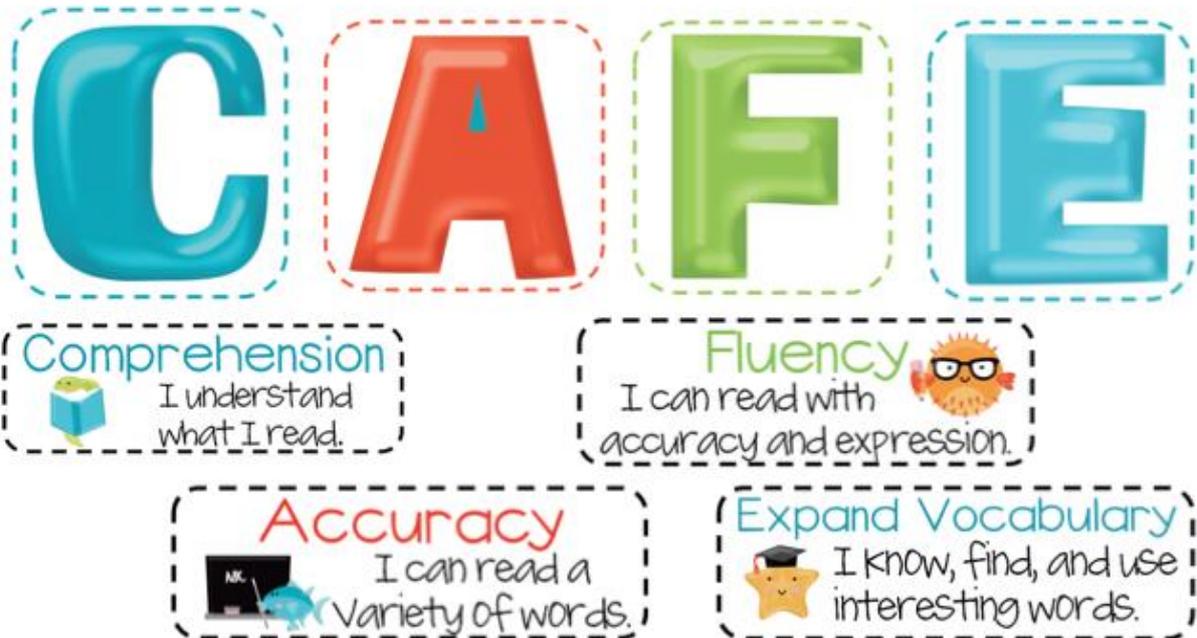
## Term 4, 2017

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM:

#### English

#### Reading

Level 3 students will continue to participate in daily CAFÉ Reading sessions aimed to help students develop effective habits of reading, writing and working independently for a lifetime of Literacy independence. Students will be taught a wide range of strategies to improve their reading and further build upon the reading strategies they have been practising. Students regularly use their reading journal to record thinking, wonderings and questions about shared and independent texts. Some of the strategies we are focusing on include: analysing author's purpose, finding evidence in texts, asking questions and identifying the mood and setting.



#### ***Some ideas to help your child with reading:***

- Encourage your child to read to the end of the sentence to enable him/her to gain further cues to the identification of an unknown word.
- Make sure that reading is an enjoyable experience for your child. Therefore if your child wants to read a difficult book he/she has an interest in, read along with them. Reading is a sharing time that can give you the opportunity to discuss the content of a book.
- Encourage your child to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and ask questions that will help them improve their comprehension.
- Praise every effort in reading, especially if confidence is low. Don't compare your child's performance with that of relatives or friends.
- Regularly ask your child which CAFÉ strategy they are working on in the classroom and encourage them to practise using it when reading at home.



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### **Writing**

This term we will be looking at using mentor texts to help plan and write narrative stories. Each week we will look at a different text to assist us with ideas, text structure, describing settings, character traits, conventions, point of view writing and word choice. Students will be provided with opportunities to work on their own independent writing and develop their skills as authors.

### **Speaking and Listening**

Speaking and Listening is a vital component of the English program. In order to improve their speaking and listening skills, your child will be encouraged to participate in different activities which may include: group work, circle games, class discussions, VIP presentations and oral responses in the CAFÉ program. If your child has forgotten their VIP date, please see your classroom teacher. They will learn how to provide constructive feedback in a positive manner to their peers. At the end of the mini unit, students will read their information report to a younger year level and share their new found knowledge on the topic.

### **Mathematics**

The Mathematics program at Launching Place Primary School is designed to cater for each child's individual needs. To ensure all students experience success, maths classes may take several different approaches. These include group work with focused teaching circles, hands-on, real-life activities, computers for skill building and problem solving, and open-ended, rich learning tasks. Throughout the term, children will be pretested and then separated into differentiated learning groups. They will then work at their level to target the next step in their learning. This provides students with an opportunity to experience a variety of teaching styles and approaches as they work with different teachers across the topics covered this term. Students will continue to participate in Blitzmasters sessions designed to increase automatic recall of a range of number facts. The students compete against themselves with the aim to improve their score each session.

Topics we will be looking at this term include:

- Place Value
- Area and Perimeter
- Length
- Fractions
- Money
- Shape Transformations and Tessellations
- Mass
- Capacity
- Multi-step Problems

### **Some ideas to help your child with Mathematics**

There are countless ways to help your child grasp mathematical concepts and skills. Calculation is not the only mathematical skill necessary at school. Measurement, Geometry, Statistics and Probability are all part of the Mathematics Curriculum.

Practising times tables – **although students will spend time learning multiplication at school, they will find it much easier if they are thoroughly familiar with the times tables.** Ask your child which ones they are doing in their quick maths and practise them daily. You may like to do this as you drive with your child, when they help in the kitchen or



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when you find you have some time alone with them. A chart in the smallest room in the house can also be beneficial.

Games – many children’s games are mathematically based. Jigsaw puzzles provide early experience for visual planning skills to develop. Games where dice are used give opportunities for number use and understanding. Logic and strategy games sharpen young minds for thinking and planning ahead. Apart from the social language opportunities inherent in these games, the mathematical thinking involved is of huge value and cannot be taught in a formal sense.

In the kitchen – cooking and preparing food involves numbers and measures. Ask your child to contribute at an early age, from counting how many people and how many potatoes, to doubling the recipe which calls for one and a half cups of flour. Temperature, weight, mass, time and length are all part of life in the kitchen, as are fractions, decimals and dozens.

Attitude – the most important thing is that these activities provide useful, happy experiences in mathematical thinking. Keep it enjoyable. Learning happens best when the learner is ready and wants to learn.

### **Integrated Studies: Protecting our Planet**

In level 3, students will focus on investigating the Earth’s resources and ways to sustain and maintain them for future generations. In this, students should gain the following understandings:

- The Earth’s resources are finite and need to be managed to provide a healthy future for the planet.
- It is everyone’s responsibility to take actions for the environment.
- People can live in harmony with the environment by using and managing resources more effectively.
- Explore and implement simple changes they themselves can make.

### **Homework & Diaries:**

Students are expected to read at home for a minimum of 20 minutes and get their diary signed by a parent to indicate how long students have read. A minimum of 3 signatures are required per week and will be checked every Wednesday.

Diaries are a central part of home/school communication at Launching Place Primary School. Not only do the teachers check them regularly to see their reading record, they are often used to deliver messages to parents. If you write a message to the teacher in the diary, please make sure your child knows and shows it to the teacher. It is expected that in grades 3 and 4, students should be responsible for their morning routine; teachers do not give reminders to show them the diary every day.

Students have been given a Homework Contract book. They are expected to complete one contract a week, with it being handed in on Wednesday morning. Homework Contract books will be completed in numerical order, unless otherwise stated by the teacher. If there is a change to the homework expectation for a particular week, a note will be sent home.



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### You can help your child and us by:

- Donating any suitable books (that you have finished with) to add to our classroom libraries.
- Reminding your child to bring their diary to school **every day**.
- Sending a bottle of water for your child to keep in the classroom.
- Sending a box of tissues to school.
- Sending your child with a healthy and balanced lunch to ensure they remain focused and on task.

### ASIAN STUDIES – Mrs Tatterson

We will begin the term by finalising our 'Adventures Across Asia' project. The students have put a great amount of effort into their projects so far. To finalise our projects, the students will be presenting the important and interesting facts they have learnt about their countries to the grade.

Later in the term, we will be having a whole school 'Cultural Day', (Week 6 - Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November). The day will be a special dress-up day and have a number of cultural activities throughout the day.

To end the term we will be focusing on celebrations across Asia, looking at Chinese New Year and various other festivals.

### THE ARTS – Miss Nyman

This term The Arts will be held on Thursdays. Students will continue to receive a weekly hour and half session that will combine elements of visual arts and performing arts, including music, drama and dance. In Visual Arts, students will begin the term by decorating a pot plant that will be available for sale at the Twilight Fair on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October. Students will finish their woollen bowls and they will create an underwater picture of themselves using oil pastels, water coloured paint and a photograph of themselves. Students will learn dances from around the world, such as the Greek Zorba and some Irish dancing. They will continue to participate in improvisation acting tasks and they will also plan and perform a play for their peers, using the dress ups and props. In music, the students will demonstrate their understanding of volume, temp and rhythm.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Mr Devisser

Physical Education will be held for 3/4K and 3/4F on Mondays and 3/4L on Wednesdays. Students will also be involved in a sports program on Tuesday afternoons. It would be great to see everyone wearing appropriate footwear on their PE days. School shirts and shorts or school tracksuits are ideal.

The fourth term will focus on skill development for summer sports. Simple orienteering and mapping skills will be taught in the earlier part of the term. This will be supported by our



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Orienteering Program which will be held at Maroondah Dam on the 26<sup>th</sup> October. We have also secured the services of our local tennis coach who will be taking the 3/4s on Tuesdays.

The annual bike ride to Warburton in December is also a popular activity and some bike training may be held before hand.

### **Dates to Remember:**

Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>- Tabloid Sports

Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> – Aerobics Spring Challenge

Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup>- 3-6 Orienteering

Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> – Twilight Country Fair

Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>- Report Writing Day

Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup> – Melbourne Cup Day

Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup> – Launch Cup

Monday December 11<sup>th</sup>- Parent Helper's Morning Tea

Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>- Carol's Night

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>- Warburton Bike Ride

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December- Meet the 2018 Teacher Day/ Reports home

Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> – End of Term 4

Thanks

Kasey Bishop, Maria Rae, Zoe Kendall, and Ala Lorenc  
3/4 teachers

