



Launching Place Primary School
Term Planner – Grade 3/4
Term 2, 2017















What's Happening in the Classroom:



English
Reading

Level 3 students will continue to participate in daily Reading Workshops aimed to help them 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 in Term 1; comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. Through mini-lessons taught each day, strategies are added to the CAFÉ Reading classroom display and are regularly referred to as required. These sessions also include a range of other Literacy based activities to promote skills such as computer skills, thinking skills, and spelling.

Over the term we will be looking at the following strategies:

-  Check for understanding
-  Predicting what will happen
-  Making inferences and supporting them with evidence
-  Use text features including titles, headings and graphics
-  Summarising the text
-  Using the main idea and supporting details to determine importance
-  Rethinking misconceptions
-  Inferring the meaning of unfamiliar words
-  Recognise cause and effect relationships
-  Using pictures, illustrations and diagrams
-  Skipping the word and come back
-  Expanding our vocabulary

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.
- Ensuring your child reads at least 3 times a week (for 20 minutes) and to keep track of this in their diary.





Launching Place Primary School
Term Planner – Grade 3/4
Term 2, 2017



The Writing Process

Prewrite
Brainstorm and organize your ideas!

Draft
Use your ideas to write a rough draft!

Revise
Make changes to improve your writing!

Edit
Proofread and correct your mistakes!

Publish
write and present your final copy!

Writing

Each term, grade 3/4 students will focus on specific writing genres. Our first unit is on persuasive writing where students will develop their understanding of expressing opinions and providing reasons in structured paragraphs. We will start by emerging students into the genre through mentor texts and oral language tasks. They will participate in mini debates in small groups and using graphic organisers. They will identify topics important to them (personal or global) which will become their focus for their individual piece. Students will research their topic to find facts and statistics to support their argument. During guided mini lessons, students will learn to use emotive language and loaded words to persuade their reader.

In the second half of the term, students will look at information reports. They will explore the text features, structure and will conduct appropriate research to write their own information report about an animal of their choice.

We will continue to use our Writer's Notebook twice a week where students will work at their own pace to take their piece of writing through the writing process.

Spelling

Students will be involved in a spelling program where their individual needs will be met through whole and small group focuses. Students will participate in whole class spelling inquiries and develop their phonological (sound), etymological (word origin), visual, and morphemic (word families) knowledge. They will collect words from their writing to form spelling word lists and then use these words to practice and test with a partner. This will be a school-based program that will allow each child to work at their own level to fulfil their learning needs.

Some ideas to help your child with spelling

- Read a variety of texts with your child regularly
- Play word games such as Boggle and Scrabble
- Some children may need to revise their M100 and M200 words (your child's classroom teacher will advise you if this is the case)

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.





Launching Place Primary School
Term Planner – Grade 3/4
Term 2, 2017



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.

A major focus this term will be on problem solving. Students will learn to identify and understand the problem and plan the ways to solve it using the correct operation at each step. The strategies include, make a drawing/diagram, looking for a pattern, act it out, draw a table, find all the possibilities, guess and check, and work backwards.

This term we will revise and build on understandings such as:

Number and Algebra

- Division
- Multiplication-arrays, repeated addition
- Factors
- Prime Numbers
- Fractions
- Place Value
- Money



Statistics and Probability

- Chance
- Graphs

Measurement and Geometry

- Mass/Weight
- Volume
- Capacity
- Angles
- Time (including calendars)

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 when you find you





Launching Place Primary School
Term Planner – Grade 3/4
Term 2, 2017



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.

NAPLAN

The year 3 and 5 students will be involved in NAPLAN testing in mid May. This national benchmark testing will test your child’s abilities in the different areas of Literacy and Numeracy. It is important that your child participates in the series of assessments as the results are used to improve future teaching practices.

Integrated Studies: We built this city

In this unit, students will investigate different structures including those in their local environment and famous structures around the world. They will explore the design process (design, produce, explain) which is essential in making and constructing works. They will develop an understanding that different materials can be used for construction.

Students may be involved in the following activities:

- Neighbourhood walk to look at structures.
- Drawing and labelling diagrams.
- Investigating famous structures around the world.
- Working in teams to plan and construct an object to fulfill a design brief.
- Build the largest tower using newspaper.
- Construct the strongest bridge using pasta.

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





Launching Place Primary School

Term Planner – Grade 3/4

Term 2, 2017



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 are expected to complete one contract in their Homework book each week and it will be checked/corrected on a Wednesday.

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 an appropriate (BPA free) **bottle of water** for your child to keep in the classroom.



- Sending a box of **tissues** to school.



THE ARTS – Miss Nyman

This term The Arts will be held on Thursdays. Throughout the term, the current Arts room will be removed and replaced with a new and improved room. In the interim, The Arts will be held in the OSHC side of the GP room and Monday assemblies will take place in the BER building. We are looking forward to moving into our new room when it's ready!

Students will receive an hour and half lesson each week that will combine elements of visual arts and performing arts, including music, drama and dance. In visual arts, students will be exploring patterning, contrasting colours that complement each other, as well as shading based on the position of light. Students will create a magazine vase by folding and gluing strips of magazines together. In Music, students will use a variety of instruments to create a soundscape for a predator vs prey scenario, which will be supported by some art about animals. In drama, students will continue to practise their acting skills by participating in improvisation activities that encourage them to think quickly. Students will also learn songs to be performed at assembly, Grandparent's Day and Open Night.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Mr Devisser

Phys Ed for grades 3/4K and 3/4F will be held on Mondays and 3/4L on Wednesdays. They will also be involved in a sports program on Wednesday afternoons.

It would be great to see everyone wearing appropriate footwear on their PE days. School shirts and shorts or school tracksuits are ideal.





Launching Place Primary School
Term Planner – Grade 3/4
Term 2, 2017



Second Term program will focus on the following:

1. The main focus at the beginning of the term will be Athletics, concentrating on developing skills for the cross country event in mid May.
2. For the major part of the term we will be working on Ball Handling Skills and applying these skills in modified games of the major sports.

ASIAN STUDIES – Mrs Tatterson

This term in Asian Studies we will continue to broaden our knowledge and understanding of the cultures of various countries across Asia. Through all lessons we will aim to provide activities and discussions that promote respect across cultures and celebrate similarities and differences. We will begin the term by focusing on China and some of the significant moments from China's ancient history. We have looked at the Great Wall of China and we are currently learning about the Terracotta Warriors. This term will also see students take greater ownership over their learning in Asian Studies, with a focus on finding information on various countries and areas of interest to the students.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday 25th April – ANZAC Day (public holiday)
Tuesday 9th May- NAPLAN week (grade 3 students)
Saturday 13th May- Aerobics
Monday 15th May – Mum’s and Mate’s Afternoon Tea
Friday 19th May- Cross Country
Monday 22nd May – Friday 26th May – Education Week

- Grandparents Day (Tuesday)
- Open Night (Wednesday)

Saturday 3rd June – Aerobics
Monday 12th June – Queen’s Birthday (public holiday)
Thursday 22nd June - Reports and Portfolios sent home
Thursday 23rd June- Curriculum Day
Monday 26th June – Parent Teacher Interviews
Friday 30th June – Last day of Term 2, 2:30pm dismissal

Thanks,
Zoe Kendall, Ala Lorenc and Ashlea Fistic
3/4 teachers

