

WHAT'S ON IN GRADE 3/4 ?

Hello everyone! We are past the half way mark this term and hasn't it been cold? We have been doing lots of learning in Grades 3 and 4 ...and having lots of fun doing it!

Literacy

In Writing, students have been learning about procedural texts. The teachers had some fun starting the unit by asking students to write down the procedure to make a jam sandwich. Students thought that this task seemed simple enough, however when it came time for the teachers to follow their instructions, the classrooms turned into a frenzy of laughter. The students quickly learnt that you need to be very specific when writing a procedural text! The students have been using rubrics to analyse their writing to celebrate their success and to see areas of improvement. They have begun writing their own procedural texts using very specific instructions and word choice in order to suit their audience and purpose.

In Reading, we have been using the mentor text *The Super Book Of Science* to analyse the writer's craft from an audience's perspective. Students have been learning to determine importance by selecting key information, improving their questioning skills and learning how to follow scientific procedures, especially the importance of reading all of the instructions first!



Numeracy

The teachers at Wandin North Primary School have been doing professional learning around the importance of Growth Mindset in Mathematics. Students are documenting the strategies they use and the mindset they have when approaching tasks. We are working hard to teach students that there is no such thing as a 'Maths Brain' and that EVERYONE can achieve!

This month in numeracy we have explored fractions and decimals. The students investigated equivalent fractions and completed a problem solving task where they had to show how many different ways they could cut a cake into quarters. Students approached this task with a great mindset and lots of creativity! We encourage you to come in and see our display in The Gallery. Students have been learning about and describing the features of 2D and 3D shapes and how these connect to the world around them.



Digital Technology

The students have been using a coding program called Scratch to learn the basic principles of software coding. The students have learnt how to create different animations over the past few weeks and are now moving on to create their own program containing animated characters, moving text and even games with scoring systems. If the students are looking for something to do on the holidays, send them to www.scratch.mit.edu to build their coding skills, it's free and the kids love it!

Forces and Functions

Through experiments and MAPPEN, the students have been learning about different forces, especially gravity, friction and air resistance. The students are using what they have learnt to design a balloon powered car using recycled materials, a straw and a balloon. The students have been encouraged to use trial and error to find out which materials will make their car move the fastest. The students will be testing and creating their cars in the coming week before the Great Race! Students will test their car to achieve their goal of it travelling 5 metres. To celebrate all of their learning and hard work, the teachers are organising a race day for students to test their cars out!



Camp

The students are now starting to get excited about camp. To prepare students, we will investigate Sovereign Hill in the classroom, closer to the camp dates. Students will participate in an Education Session: How daily life was in the past, numerous demonstrations, play olden day games and have a chance to find gold in the creek. We will be sending home a packing list in the coming weeks and there will be a parent information session on Wednesday the 10th of October at 3.45pm in 3/4H's room to answer any questions.



Important Dates:

End of Term— Friday 21st September

Start of Term 4— Monday 8th October

Camp— Wednesday 17th October - Friday 19th October

Final payment for camp due—Monday 8th October

Camp information session—Wednesday 10th October