

Stage 3 Newsletter

Date: 3/2/09

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back for Term 1 of 2009! We hope that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday and is ready for what looks to be a busy term.

This letter will briefly outline some of the organisational aspects applicable to Stage 3, list classroom requirements needed for each student and inform you of upcoming school events.

A parent night will be held on Tuesday 10th February at 7.00 pm, further information about Stage 3 will be available then. It is highly recommended that parents attend this information session as important details relevant to all students will be provided on the night. In particular changes and expectations in regards to class and home work will be explained. With the inclusion of a short presentation by Representatives from Kincumber High School, we hope to enable informed choices when applying for high school placement later this term.

This year there are again four unstreamed Stage 3 classes. The teachers are Miss Renwick, Mrs Gillett, Mrs Tobin, Mrs Davies and Mrs Hardy. Mrs Gillett will be on class Monday to Thursday and Mrs Tobin will teach Fridays. Mrs Hardy and Mrs Davies will continue to teach as a combined class while Mrs Gillett, Mrs Tobin and Miss Renwick will take single classes with grouping for reading.

Other teachers your child will meet each week are Mrs Fennell for Italian, Miss Stevens for Physical Education and Mrs Kelly for Computers and Library.

Stage 3 teachers meet regularly to jointly plan and evaluate the teaching and learning program. Therefore, all four classes will mostly cover the same topics, concepts, homework and assessment tasks.

Homework will be given out on a Friday and collected after two weeks on Thursday. This allows students two weekends to complete tasks if weekdays are congested with extra-curricular commitments.

Maths groups will continue in 2009. Maths will occur daily for one hour between 11.10am and 12.10pm. Maths results from pre-testing will determine initial placement with regular review of student progress to enable movement between groups to improve student learning potential.

Our major topic of study this term is 'Gold'. This will be an integrated unit meaning the topic will be learnt about in H.S.I.E, English and Visual Arts.

Our major excursion in 2009 is an integral part of our study of 'Gold' and involves a three day excursion to Bathurst. This excursion will be held from 31st March to 2nd April. Further details will be available at the Parent Information Night on Tuesday 10th February. Outstanding deposits are required as soon as possible and instalments can be made at the office up until the 20th March.

Stage 3 teachers value communication with parents. If an interview is required please contact teachers to organise a mutually convenient time. It is appreciated if classes are not interrupted to speak to teachers.

We endeavour to provide leadership opportunities for our Stage 3 students (particularly Year 6). Being a positive role model for younger students is part of leadership. Therefore, we continue to encourage all students to take pride in our school and sports uniform at all times. The uniform includes black shoes and a red school hat. It is essential that students have their hat, jumper and all other school belongings *graffiti free* and labelled with their **name and class** to reduce property loss. Sport uniform is to be worn each Friday and for PE sessions.

Materials Required

Stage 3 teachers would like to emphasise the importance of being prepared for class work with student's stationery needs covered. It is essential that all students have their own equipment and bring it to school each day.

For class work students will require;

- * 3 red ballpoint pens
- * 3 blue ballpoint pens
- * 1 black felt-tip pen for art related activities
- * 3 HB lead pencils
- * 1 ruler
- * 1 gluestick
- * 1 rubber
- * Scissors
- * Set of 12 coloured pencils or crayolas
- * Set of 12 textas
- * a pencil sharpener with container
- * 1 geometry set which includes a set square and a protractor
- * Pencil cases to keep belongings. (it is recommended two pencil cases are used to separate items)

Optional items include:

- * Dictionary
- * Thesaurus

Please have all items labelled with name and class by Monday 9th February.

Items can be purchased very cheaply at various discount stores and are essential to everyday classroom learning. It also allows the school to spend money on other resources.

In addition, it is expected that each child have a book for silent reading.

Special Days for Classes

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| <u>Monday</u> - | 5/6D Library From week 6 - Musical and CAPA groups |
| <u>Tuesday</u> - | 5/6D & 5/6H French and PE |
| <u>Wednesday</u> - | 5/6TG & 5/6R French and PE 5/6TG Library 5/6H & 5/6D Computers |
| <u>Thursday</u> - | Scripture 5/6R Library 5/6TG & 5/6R Computers |
| <u>Friday</u> - | 5/6H & 5/6TG Library Stage 3 Sport |

Upcoming Events

Week 2

- * Swimming Carnival - Friday 6th February

Week 3

- * Parent night - Tuesday 10th March
- * Text Book sale - Thursday 12th March

Week 5

- * Young Leaders Day -SRC - Monday 23rd March

Week 9

- * School Fair - Sunday 29th March

Week 10

- * Stage 3 Bathurst Excursion - Tuesday 31st March - Thursday 2nd April

Week 11

- * Last day of term - Thursday 9th April

Please contact your child's teacher if there are any queries.