

Avoca Beach Public School Stage 2 Newsletter



Semester 1 2021

Welcome to 2021

Welcome back to school for 2021. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday and you are looking forward to an exciting school year ahead.

Each semester a stage newsletter will be sent home informing parents/carers about the programs running and other relevant information.

Classes 2021

There are five Stage 2 classes this year. The teachers for these classes are:

- 3B – Mr Craig Blanch
- 3S – Ms Christine Spencer
- 3/4T – Mr Luke Tosevic
- 4B – Mrs Jayne Bevins
- 4J – Mr Dennis Jarmaine

Ms Esther Hartley and Ms Christine Spencer are the Stage Supervisors for Stage 2. Supervisors work closely with the teachers to provide support, development and enrichment opportunities. The team will work closely together, jointly planning the teaching and learning programs to ensure consistency across the stage. Other teachers who work with the Stage 2 students are:

- Ms Julie Boarer – Library
- Ms Kim Fyffe – STEM

Communication

Teachers at our school are aware of the importance of maintaining effective and productive communication between home and school. If you need to speak with the class teacher, please contact the school office or write a note to the class teacher. The class teacher will get back to you as soon as possible to speak or meet. At any time, parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher promptly if there are any concerns. This can be done by phoning the office or writing a letter to

organise a mutually convenient time to meet. To maintain a productive, quality learning environment, parents are requested not to interrupt while lessons are in progress.

Attendance and Punctuality

In Stage 2 we follow a sequential program of learning which begins promptly at the start of each day. Absences and late arrival at school can impact on your child's learning. Please ensure your child is only absent for genuine reasons. Arrival at school by 9:20am is essential and allows your child to start the day on a positive note, as the day's routines are outlined and the first lesson begins immediately. If your child arrives late, or is required to leave early, please make sure you fill in a student leave form at the front office before attending the classroom. Absence notes should be sent to the class teacher or absences can be notified via the school app.

Required Equipment

Please ensure that your child comes to school with the essentials including lead pencils, whiteboard markers, highlighters, scissors, glue and a ruler. We also encourage students to bring in a pair of earphones to use with our devices. Marking these items with their name would also help.

Voluntary Contribution and Classroom Levy

This year the voluntary contribution remains at \$43 per child and \$86 per family. This money is used to purchase additional teaching resources. The compulsory classroom levy is \$10 and this covers the cost of resource books, stationary items and classroom consumables. A note will be sent home about this.

Homework

Our homework policy takes a holistic approach, designed to develop the whole child. Homework will commence Term 1 Week 4. It will be handed out every Monday and collected each Friday.

Teaching and Learning Programs

English

Students will be learning to differentiate between imaginative, persuasive and informative texts from a variety of different sources. Students will be explicitly taught the Super Six Strategies to help them understand and make better sense of what they are reading. In writing students will focus on composing imaginative and persuasive texts.

Mathematics

Students will be developing their mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding through learning experiences across all number and algebra sub strands. Other sub strands covered this semester include; 2D space, angles, time, length, mass and data.

Science and Technology

Students will develop knowledge and understanding, focusing specifically on the Living World sub strand. Students will investigate how bees and humans are interrelated following the STEM Process. They will learn how important bees and other pollinators are in maintaining production levels of a large range of agricultural plants/products. Students will design a bee friendly cafe/garden and a product to raise awareness within the community of the importance of protecting bees. Students will also visit the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney to compliment the unit in Term 1.

History

This semester Stage 2 students will be developing their questioning skills and vocabulary to help them think like a Historian. They will be studying the unit 'First Contacts'. Students will examine European exploration and colonisation in Australia up to the early 1800's. They will examine the impact of exploration on other societies, how these societies interacted with newcomers and how these experiences contributed to their cultural diversity.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

Students will have a weekly PE lesson each Tuesday focusing on fundamental movement skills. Stage 2 will also have a weekly stage sport

session each Friday focusing on modified sports. Please ensure your child wears their sports uniform every Tuesday and Friday. This semester students will focus on Friendology and healthy living/safety for Personal Development and Health.

Creative and Practical Arts

All Stage 2 students will be participating in weekly music and drama lessons with Mrs Coleman. In addition, students will focus on art appreciation through the stage visual arts unit.

Overnight Camp

The Year 4 overnight camp will be in **Term 2, Week 7, Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd June 2021**. A permission note will be sent home in Term 1 outlining payment details. Please **do not** make a payment until this note has been received. Students will stay overnight at the Morisset Centre where the activities will be challenging, educational and lots of fun!

Most students will be looking forward to this experience. A few students (and parents) may be hesitant. If your child has anxiety when staying somewhere overnight or being away from you, please contact the class teacher as soon as possible so that we can discuss strategies to support your child. We would love to see them there!

Before and After School

In the mornings, children should arrive between 9:00am – 9:15am. There will be no supervision before 9am. It is important that any change to regular pick up routine be made clear to the student and if in doubt a letter to the teacher so that we can assist them.

Our school website and school app are also regularly updated to keep parents informed of school, stage and class events.

We are all very much looking forward to sharing in your child's learning journey this semester.

Kind regards,

Esther Hartley (Stage 2 Supervisor), Christine Spencer (Stage 2 Supervisor), Craig Blanch, Luke Tosevic, Jayne Bevins and Dennis Jarmaine.