

Grade 3/4 Unit Curriculum Summary

Literacy

In **Reading**, we implement our CAFÉ program that assists each student in their reading by focusing on a variety of reading strategies that increase Comprehension, Fluency, Accuracy and Expand Vocabulary. We use explicit teaching to teach important reading strategies throughout the year, using whole class, small group and individualized teaching. We focus on students choosing a “Just Right Book” to further develop their reading skills. The students will use the I-pick method for this; that focuses on making sure that the chosen book will keep their interest and understanding, as well as assisting them to implement and use their newly acquired reading strategies throughout their chosen text. Students will also use a reading journal that will allow them to take a further in depth reflection on what they read. Students have a Home Reading Book, it is an expectation that students read and record their reflections as a homework activity, returning it to school to be checked by the class teacher.

In **Writing**, we have an emphasis on a specific writing genre which focuses on the different aspects and structures that are associated with that particular writing style. This gives students a greater understanding of what is required to successfully complete written work and the aspects involved to make it detailed and reader friendly. We also teach the 6+1 traits of writing, which give our students the skills to reflect and improve on their pieces of work. We couple this with a specific grammar and punctuation focus so students understand their correct use and importance in the writing process. Students have a Handwriting Book, learning the basics of Victorian Cursive script on a weekly basis. The Grade 3-6 students are participating in a whole- school spelling program, Targeting Spelling. Students have a weekly focus and complete board work, pencil work, and assessments.

Extra Literacy Support is provided for students within the classroom and where possible, with Maree Tate. Children are placed in Literacy groups where they work at a level which helps build their confidence in spelling, reading and writing. It complements our whole school Literacy program by providing support and assistance to teachers, individuals and small groups. It is focused on specific and/or additional needs of students.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, teachers will work with their class with the focus on Number topics from Monday to Wednesday. We have developed a detailed scope and sequence for the curriculum, which allows our students to have continual exposure to numeracy topics over the term.

Measurement, TANA (Teaching Applied Number Activity Project), statistics and probability are the Numeracy focus for Thursday and Friday each week.

All areas of numeracy are taught by the classroom teacher, who plans differentiated lessons according to the stages of students' needs. Many mathematics tasks are centered on 'real life' math's activities, investigations and games where students are taught to apply their skills in everyday situations.

Other Key Learning Areas

Integrated studies is research and investigative - based, where students can access a range of learning materials to help them explore and investigate a range of topics, beginning with 'Us', an integrated topic designed to highlight who we are as individuals and working as a team.

History: Students will investigate Indigenous Studies, Community and Remembrance.

Geography: Students will learn about Australia and Oceania and its physical features.

Science: Science will see the students investigate chemical reactions, living things, ecosystems, earth and space. Science will also include excursions/incursions that will further develop students understanding in an investigative environment, e.g. Earth Ed, Ecolinc.

Civics and Citizenship: We will introduce students to democracy as well as the purpose of local government and the services it provides to the community. Students consider the purpose of creating rules for groups and how rules and laws affect them.

Health: In Health, the students will learn the importance of a healthy mind, healthy lifestyle and nutrition, guided by Courtney McKenna.

Japanese Language: The students will learn how to read, write and say different words, numbers and sentences using the Japanese language. They will also explore Japanese culture and learn about Japanese people and their environment. Japanese sessions will be taken weekly by Brooke Cowan.

eLearning: eLearning will be taught in the classroom environment and supported by a specific digital focus during integrated lessons weekly.

Art: Art will be taken each week by specialist teacher Kelly Kosloff.

EAL/D: This program is designed to support and assist student who speak a language other than English at home. These students are either supported in the classroom on the work that is being completed at the time or can be supported by targeted EAL/D sessions. These are either small group or individual based where students focus on their area of need under the guidance of an adult. At Dana Street, we are fortunate to have students from many different cultures, countries and backgrounds; bringing great diversity to our school.

P.E.: The Physical Education Program will take place each week with Courtney McKenna as a specialist subject. Physical Education in grade 3 will have a particular focus on the continued development of the student's fundamental movement skills and the movement patterns that involve different parts of the body.

Bounce Back, Circle time and Restorative practice- In class we have a weekly BOUNCE BACK session with the student's classroom teacher. Throughout the course of the year, students will cover our School Values, the 9 units from this welfare, relationships and resilience program. All students will participate in circle time where they will be free to share ideas and concerns in a positive environment developing their resilience and cooperation.

Planned Camps, Excursions/Incursions

In Grade 3 we have planned an excursion for each term. We will visit the Werribee Zoo, Earth Ed, Ecolinc (incursion), Her Majesty's Theatre and Camp.

Administrative

Grade 3/4A is taken by Brooke Cowan Monday to Thursday 9:00-1:00 & Maree Tate 2:00-3:30. Brooke takes the grade all day on Friday.

Grade 3/4B is taken by Xavier Jones on a full time basis.

3/4 C is taken by Kellie Healy on a full-time basis.

Brooke Cowan (Unit Leader), Maree Tate, Xavier Jones and Kellie Healy

Grade 3 Teaching Team