WELCOME BACK

We hope that you and your family had a relaxing Easter holiday. We’re all excited to be back and getting into the swing of things.

We had a very productive term one where the students learned about life in the past and how it has changed over the years.

Our incursion from the History Box was excellent and allowed the students to look at and touch items from the past. We thoroughly enjoyed our dress-up day where we had lots of fun playing “olden day” games and school activities.

We now happily look forward to an eventful and exciting term 2.

If you have any questions or concerns please get in touch.

Murray, Diane, David, Jenn, Debbie and Lesley

LITERACY

In reading and writing students will learn and develop an understanding of structure and content using a variety of text types. In small, focused and structured reading groups, students will share, be supported and guided through the reading process. We are continually encouraging students to be independent readers and learners.

In spelling, students will be challenged to learn and develop spelling strategies to help them become confident spellers. We will continue to have a weekly focus on letter families and common sight words.

Handwriting will continue to be a focus, as students learn to write on dotted thirds with correct size and letter formation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

During this term in integrated studies we will be busy investigating sustainability. We will have discussions and learning opportunities centred on water and ‘the 5 Rs’ refuse, reuse, reduce, recycle, rebuild.

ANZAC Day April 25
Curriculum / Report Writing Day Monday May 19
Education Week May 19 - 25
Queen’s Birthday June 10

Swimming - commencing in term 3
**MATHS**

In Mathematics our work in Number will extend our exploration of place value, and encompass addition and subtraction. We will use concrete materials and number lines, and look at developing a range of addition and subtraction strategies. We will also be covering the areas of chance and data, shapes, money and fractions.

Many of our day-to-day activities, both at home and at school, involve mathematics. Here are some things you can do at home with your son or daughter to help them establish mathematical concepts.

Keep the Calendar Up-to-date: mark any special events on the calendar. Look for patterns in the number squares. Encourage your child to make their own calendars. Count the number of weeks, days, months and years.

Collections: encourage your child to build up collections of old buttons, shells, cards, plastic toys. Sorting, grouping, classifying and counting collections are valuable activities.

Mass and Height: keep a record of your child’s mass and height. See how much they have grown each year. Do this for others in the family. Graph the results.

**HOMEWORK**

Homework will be handed out on Tuesday and returned the following Monday. We understand that families often have commitments so if your child is unable to complete his/her homework please leave us a note in the diary as some children feel unsettled about not being able to participate in the homework review.

Homework this term will continue to consist of 10 minutes of reading; in addition to this, the students will be given spelling words to study and a choice of other tasks that will be rewarded with house points.

The Mathletics program can be utilized to reinforce mathematical concepts and you can also log-on and use Spell-a-Drome through your Mathletics password.

**BOUNCE BACK & BUDDIES**

During term one the students participated in Bounce Back and Buddies sessions that alternated each Monday afternoon.

The year 1s and 2s met their big buddies and spent time getting to know each other.

In Bounce Back we focussed on our school TRRAC values of: Thinking, Respect, Responsibility, Attitude and Caring. We also learned about being cyber safe through Cybersmart - a national cybersafety and cybersecurity education program managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). [http://www.cybersmart.gov.au](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au)
**SPECIALISTS:** At Blackburn Lake Primary School, your child has the opportunity to participate in a variety of specialist classes.

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<tr>
<th>Physical Education</th>
<th>Music</th>
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<td>For Term 2, Grade 1 and 2 will be working on fitness and fundamental motor skills. Initially we will be working on distance running to prepare for the cross country. The fundamental motor skills we will be working on will be the catch, throw, kick (soccer) and ball bounce.</td>
<td>In Music the Grade 1 &amp; 2’s are developing their skills at playing on the tuned instruments, including the Marimbas, xylophones and our gorgeous ‘echo cellos’. They are learning about the ‘Music House’ with games such as Twister and Bingo. They are building on the knowledge of rhythmic notation with the introduction of ‘za’ and will playing many Kodaly singing games. The last two weeks will be an introduction to Orchestral Music and instruments.</td>
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In term 2 students in level 2 will compare the Italians and Australians response to refuse, reuse, reduce, and recycle products such as plastic, glass, paper and water.

The main focus of the first half of the term is the Annual Art Show. Students will prepare and display their work as part of their understanding of Art appreciation. The finished products have taken months to complete and they all enjoy the chance to show off their achievements.

As part of the Level 2 Unit on Sustainability the students will be studying the art of John Dahlsen with his beautiful totems and Ha Schult’s upcycled people. These artists use everyday household materials to create beautiful artworks. We will get busy with a carload (or two) of recycled goods from Reverse Recycle in Bayswater North. The art forms we will be focussing on this term are construction and textiles.

**REMINDERS:**
- Art Smock
- Tissues