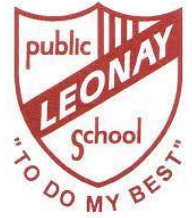




Leonay Public School



3/4T and 3/4L Newsletter
Term 1, 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to our first newsletter for the year. It is going to be a great year of learning and fun times. Below are a few key points to consider as we lift off for 2023.

- Uniform

As the year begins, it is extremely important to ensure that all students have the correct uniform. Please make sure that all students have black shoes (with no other colours on them and black laces). As part of this, students need to wear grey or white socks, not multi-coloured. Bike shorts are not part of the uniform for girls unless they are worn under the tunic, shorts or skorts. Leonay PS hats must be worn at all times. These are available to purchase from the office anytime. Students who do not have a hat will be on hard surfaces undercover during play times. Wearing the correct uniform is a way of showing pride in our school.

- Leo Legend

In order to recognise safe, respectful behaviour on the playground, we have initiated Leo Legend tokens. These tokens will be given to students who teachers see on the playground using STAND, playing safely and interacting with other respectfully. At each assembly all token holders will have the opportunity to win a \$2 canteen voucher.

- Continually check your Compass App for messages, notes and upcoming events
- 'All About Me' form: This is to help the teachers get to know your child. Please ensure that these are returned to your child's teacher as soon as you can
- Year 3 NAPLAN begins Wednesday 15 March.

Yours in Education,

Mrs Longhurst (Stage 2 Assistant Principal), Miss Mills (Mon-Thurs), Mrs McKay (Fri) and Mr Tsitos

Up Coming Events

Stage 2 Camp is coming up in the back half of the year. The dates are 21-22 September. Information will be sent home as the year progresses.

Important Weekly Events

Library Day – Library is an important chance for children to explore a variety of texts and foster a love of reading. It is important for students to use this valuable resource every week to strengthen their ever-growing reading skills. Whilst it is important to read every day, it is also important to talk to your child about what they are reading and how this relates to their world. Please ensure that your child returns their books weekly, if they have not finished reading them, they can always reborrow.

3/4L Library day - Friday

3/4T Library day – Wednesday

Sport Day – This will continue to be Friday each week. Your child will need to wear sport uniform and sport shoes. They will also need their hat and water bottle.

We have changed our approach to RFF this year. Mrs Renny will take 3/4L and 3/4T for a full day on a Tuesday each fortnight. She will implement the Drama and Smiling Minds programs as part of her day of teaching.

The Importance of Homework

Home Reading – a minimum of 15 minutes sustained reading every day is hugely beneficial. Please prioritise this. Children will borrow library books each week from week 4 onwards. Reading their library books gives children a broad range of books to choose from and allows them read both fiction and factual books.

Speaking & Listening Mini Projects– Students are asked to prepare and present on a set topic once in term 1 (To be distributed Weeks 4/5). This project will be carefully explained, and all background knowledge will be taught at school. This term's project is aimed at developing students' skills in expressing their thoughts and opinions on themselves and stories they read. Students will continue to develop confidence in giving a spoken presentation to their class.

Spelling – Students are encouraged to access the Sound Waves website to practise their list words using the segmenting tool, then play other games related to the weekly phoneme.

Maths – To help your child with the recall of basic maths facts we have listed below some websites that help to boost this recall in a fun and engaging way.

<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/resources/-/mathematics>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Term 1 Learning Focuses

English – Narrative

Speaking & Listening: Students will be learning how to listen carefully to detailed verbal instructions. Each student will deliver a short spoken presentation to their class this term as part of their mini-project.

Reading: We will be undertaking a novel study of ‘Tales of a fourth grade nothing’ by Judy Blume. Students will be completing a detailed study on the reading strategies of predicting and visualising. Good readers predict before, during and after reading. They take clues from images, titles, events, individual words and text structures. An expert reader makes predictions with the intention of confirming or refining them. Visualising helps understand characters, events and settings. It is particularly useful when reading descriptive passages or detailed explanations of how events have taken place.

Writing: Students will be revising and building on their understanding of narrative structure to write quality stories. We will be using an approach called Talk for Writing, this is a research-based method of teaching writing which we had tremendous success in the past few years. Quality story writing involves careful planning of events, as well as effective characterisation. Students will be learning how to write with varied punctuation using direct speech, noun groups, correct tense (past, present and future) and take a new paragraph when the time, place or character changes.

Spelling: We will begin our Sound Waves program for the year as per the following learning sequence:

- Week 2 – getting started
- Week 3 – ‘b’ as in balloon
- Week 4 – ‘a’ as in apple
- Week 5 – ‘k’ as in kite
- Week 6 – ‘e’ as in egg
- Week 7 – ‘d’ as in duck
- Week 8 – ‘i’ as in igloo
- Week 9 – ‘f’ as in fish
- Week 10 – ‘o’ as in orange

Science - Physical World Unit

Students will be learning about forces and how they act on objects. Forces can either be contact (push, pull, friction, drag etc.) or non-contact (gravity, magnetism etc.).

Personal Development – Does who I am affect

who you are? Social and Emotional Key Competency – **Self Awareness** Students will explore the concept of identity, exploring what this term means and the various aspects that define one’s identity. They will explore their own and examine how to use strengths to positively contribute to their communities during ‘Rock and Water’ lessons and other focused lessons in the classroom.

Mathematics

We will begin maths groups in Week 4. The groups are taught by our Stage 2 and 3 team and there will be a high degree of communication between the teachers regarding students and their learning. These groupings are flexible and students may move in and out of groups depending on their learning needs. Every Friday will be a dedicated problem-solving day when students will learn the strategies required to accurately read, solve and explain word problems.

All groups will be focusing on:

Whole Number: Using knowledge of place value to generate large or small numbers from given digits; relating addition and subtraction number facts; recalling multiplication facts of two, three, five and ten (Year 3) and up to 10 x 10 (Year 4); model and represent fractions up to fifths; and developing mental strategies for addition and subtraction

Measurement and Geometry: Use a ruler to measure and draw lines using cm and mm; tell the time to the minute using the terms ‘past’ and ‘to’; using formal units to measure area (square cm or m) using the litre as a unit for measuring capacity; and identifying and naming three-dimensional objects.

Statistics and Probability: Collecting data, organising it in categories and representing it in data displays.

History – First Contact

Students will be learning the reasons behind why the British chose to transport convicts on the First Fleet. They will examine first and second-hand sources of information to learn about life in 18th Century England and the conditions that led to overcrowded prisons. Students will research the conditions experienced by those who sailed on the First Fleet and the struggles experienced on the journey to Australia.

Sound waves passwords:

- 3/4T – school495
- 3/4L – yummy125

PE – Fundamental Movement Skills

Students will work towards mastering the skills of ‘skip’ and ‘overarm through’, and refine their ability to ‘leap’, ‘kick’, ‘dodge’ and perform a ‘two-handed strike’. These lessons will be on a Friday. Students will rotate through an activity each week.

Creative Arts – Drama

The aim of this unit of work is to engage students in a series of activities that explore various dramatic skills using technology. Students will learn about the history of film and how storytelling techniques in film build emotional responses.