

# Stage 3 Parent Information Sheet

## Term 1 - 2020

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Welcome to another year of learning at Woonona in Stage 3. We look forward to working closely with you to achieve the best outcomes for your children. If you have any questions about the information on this note, please contact your child's teacher.

### Stage 3 Teachers

Listed below are the Stage 3 teachers for 2020. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's learning throughout the year, please don't hesitate to discuss these with the classroom teacher. Organising a scheduled meeting will ensure the teacher is available for a detailed interview. However, feel free to pop into school after the bell goes and introduce yourself in the coming weeks.

4/5D	Mr Declan McMullen
5A	Mr Matt Argaet (Stage 3 Relieving Assistant Principal) - Mondays-Wednesday & Friday. Mrs Edwina Smith - Thursdays
5PR	Miss Laura Pullen - Monday - Wednesday Miss Mahalia Royters - Thursday-Friday
5L	Miss Nicole Lambert
6A	Mr Michael Arrighi
6B	Mrs Melanie Beckinsale
6H	Mr Darcy Heffernan

## Absences

Notes from parents are always required for student absences, late attendance or early leaving. If a note is not sent, a computer generated reminder is issued by the office. If you know that your child is going to be away prior to the date of absence, advanced notice is appreciated by teachers.

## Uniform

Friday - Sports uniform

Monday - Thursday - Full school uniform.

Non school hats or jumpers (including representative sports attire) cannot be worn as part of the school uniform. Please label all clothing items with student names.

## Parent teacher interviews

We have scheduled our parent teacher interview evening on Tuesday 31st March. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

## Learner Qualities

At Woonona Public School we have 7 essential qualities for learners at our school.

- Collaborate - I work with others to achieve a common goal
- Connect - I make links between what I know and my new learning
- Persist - I keep trying to achieve my goal even when they are hard
- Reflect - I think about my learning and how I use it to grow
- Resilient - I bounce back and move on when faced with challenges
- Risk-taking - I have a go, challenge myself and see mistakes as part of learning
- Wonder - I am curious, ask questions and explore ideas

Students have been reading *Rosie Revere Engineer* and *Teamwork Isn't My Thing* and participating in cycles of learning that teach and reinforce these qualities. Each week, one award per class will be given to students who have demonstrated these qualities in their learning.

### Social Skills Program

The Social Skills Program is a whole school approach reinforcing social skills in all areas of school life. Each skill will be taught over a one-week period.

### Awards

Each week teachers will recognise positive behaviour in the classroom by presenting class awards at stage assemblies. One award will be presented to a student displaying the Learner Qualities and another for displaying citizenship. In addition to these weekly awards, teachers can nominate students for the whole school Citizen of the Month Award handed out on the last Friday of each month.

Additionally, students have the opportunity to nominate their peers for the weekly 'Stage 3 Legends' awards, a student nominated recognition system that recognises good citizens.

### Premier's Reading Challenge

Students in Stage 3 will be completing the Premier's Reading Challenge in 2020. Books can be recorded using the Premier's Reading Challenge website with the student's DET login, this can be done both at school and at home.

[online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home](http://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home)

### Classroom Resources

Resource lists were distributed to all students at the end of last year. These lists are still available on the school's website. Teachers would greatly appreciate it if all resources were brought in by next week.

### Kindergarten Buddy Program

Due to the large numbers of students in Stage 3, we have had to make modifications to our Kindergarten buddy program for 2020. This year only students in Year 5 will participate in the Buddy Program with Kindergarten. This program aims to ease the transition for Kindergarten students to Woonona Public School while developing leadership qualities in Stage 3 students. This program will occur every 3 weeks and incorporates social skill activities, cooperative play and learning based tasks. Year 5 students will find out who their buddy is in the coming weeks.

### Homework

Read, read, read! We believe reading at home is the most beneficial homework task that students can complete. Our expectations this year are that students in Stage 3 read at least 20 minutes each day. This can be done before school, after school, at night before bed - whatever works for your family. Reading exercises the brain, improves vocabulary and enhances students writing in class. We encourage you to implement a regular reading schedule for your child, talk to your children about their reading material and foster a love of reading at home. Students can access a range of books in our library each week and teachers would be more than happy to recommend stage appropriate books and series.

This term students will receive further homework tasks in Week 6.

Please note that teachers will not be issuing homework to students who miss school due to family holidays. We recommend that students read and keep a travel journal of all the new and interesting things they've seen and done while away from school.

### Library

Students will be visiting the library for weekly borrowing with Mrs Lake. The library is also open for borrowing at lunchtimes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

## Canberra Excursion

Stage 3 students will be travelling to Canberra for a two night excursion from Wednesday 23rd September - Friday 25th September. This excursion is an excellent opportunity for students to build and strengthen relationships with their peers, while developing resilience and confidence in an unfamiliar setting. The Canberra excursion also supports in class units of work with visits to:

- Parliament House Tour of House of Representatives and Senate
- War Memorial
- National Museum
- Cockington Green
- National Dinosaur Museum
- High Court of Australia
- National Capital Exhibition - Regatta Point
- Mount Ainslie
- National Arboretum
- Drive past the Embassies and The Lodge
- Institute of Sport - Sportex program
- Questacon - The National Science & Technology Centre

It is always a highlight of the year for both students and teachers. An expression of interest note regarding camp went out in Week 1, it is important that this note comes back whether your child is attending camp or not as final prices are dependent on the number of students attending.

## Year 6 shirts

Students will receive more information about Year 6 shirts later in Term 1.

## English

Students have been completing a range of pre assessments over the past two weeks. Together with PAT data, teachers will analyse pre assessments to identify target areas for the students that align to NSW syllabus requirements. Teachers will then write short cycles of learning that meet these

needs through the use of modelled, guided and independent instruction. Listed below are our focus areas for this term:

- **Writing**
  - Year 5 - Information Reports
  - Year 6 - Explanations
- **Reading**
  - Year 5 & 6 - Reading comprehension strategies
- **Grammar**
  - Year 5 & 6 - Complex sentence structure taught within writing cycles.
- **Spelling - see below**

### Spelling

This year at Woonona we will be continuing our Synthetic Phonics approach to teaching spelling. Synthetic Phonics breaks words into their smallest units of sounds (phonemes) and teaches children to connect these with the written letters (graphemes). Learning intentions for each cycle have been identified using PAT assessment data and cycle focuses are listed below:

Week	Learning Intention
4-5	We are learning the graphemes that make the long o vowel phoneme
6-7	We are learning the graphemes that make the long 'e' vowel phoneme
8-9	We are learning the graphemes that make the consonant k phoneme
10-11	We are learning to use the -able and -ible suffixes

Students will be completing their spelling assessments using Google Forms through their Google Classroom. Google Forms provides many benefits to both teachers and students, with students receiving immediate feedback on their spelling, allowing them to develop personal goals for that cycle. Teachers are provided with immediate data analysis that will assist in the planning of meaningful learning, directly targeted at student needs. Students

spelling assessments can be viewed throughout the year with your child by accessing their Google Classroom.

In addition students will be learning a range of camera words. These words are identified as high frequency words where students are unable to apply conventional spelling rules. Students will be pre-assessed at the beginning of the year and work on their own personal list created from incorrect words in this assessment. Students who successfully work through the camera word list will receive extension words.

CAMERA WORDS					
they	everything	built	doubt	aisle	dinghy
because	ocean	interesting	listen	creature	discern
said	buy	library	beautiful	vegetable	contagious
there	people	calendar	ache	whose	vacuum
their	front	daughter	favourite	believe	stationary
they're	picture	wrung	rhyme	embarrass	stationery
would	sure	wring	muscle	whether	pneumonia
could	minute	which	lawyer	weather	abseil
should	too	height	drawer	thoroughly	chauffeur
busy	extra	rough	ordinary	concentrate	chateau
whole	does	enough	extraordinary	exhibit	miscellaneous
until	among	guard	island	mortgage	lieutenant
trouble	prove	diamond	laughter	yacht	croissant

## Maths

This year, teachers will be using the Stepping Stones program to teach Maths in Stage 3. This program delivers all syllabus content while providing opportunities for teachers to differentiate lessons to cater for the full range of learners in their class. Stepping Stones books will be distributed to students as soon as the office receives payment. Maths will be taught by classroom teachers in 2020.

<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
<p><b>Module One: 12 lessons</b></p> <p>Reading and representing 6 digit numbers</p> <p>Comparing and ordering six digit numbers</p> <p>Rounding six digit numbers to nearest 10, 100, 1000 or 10 000</p> <p>Using strategies to multiply 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers</p>	<p><b>Module One: 12 lessons</b></p> <p>Comparing and ordering decimal fractions</p> <p>Adding tenths and hundredths</p> <p>Word problems with fractions</p> <p>Formal multiplication algorithm</p>
<p><b>Module Two: 12 lessons</b></p> <p>Using strategies to add 4 digit numbers</p> <p>Using strategies to subtract 4 digit numbers</p> <p>Representing, comparing and ordering decimal fractions</p> <p>Comparing and ordering tenths and hundredths</p> <p>Solving problems involving elapsed time</p>	<p><b>Module Two: 12 lessons</b></p> <p>Using strategies to add five digit numbers</p> <p>Using strategies to add decimals</p> <p>Interpreting timetables</p> <p>Calculating elapsed time</p>
<p><b>Module Three: 12 lessons</b></p> <p>Investigating multiplication patterns</p>	<p><b>Module Three: 12 lessons</b></p> <p>Multiplying decimals</p> <p>Identifying and investigating prime, square and triangular numbers</p>



<p>Selecting and utilising a variety of multiplication strategies</p> <p>Solving word problems involving multiplication and division</p> <p>Creating column graphs</p> <p>Exploring Dot Plots</p>	<p>Creating two way tables</p> <p>Interpreting data from column graphs.</p>
---	---

### Geography

This semester in *Geography* students will be learning about 'A Diverse and Connected World'. Students explore countries of the Asia region and the connections Australia has with other countries across the world. Students learn about the diversity of the world's people, including the indigenous peoples of other countries. Students will explore and reflect upon similarities, differences and the importance of intercultural understanding.

### Creative arts

This semester, *Creative Arts* in Stage 3 will focus on Visual Arts. Students will make artworks for different audiences assembling materials in a variety of ways, while discussing the different opinions audiences may hold in relation to artworks.

### PDHPE/Sport

Students will participate in sport lessons every Friday with a focus on developing a range of skills for our athletics carnival in Term 2. Students will participate in PE lessons with their classroom teacher on a designated day that suits their classroom timetable. Additionally, students will be engaged in lessons developing their knowledge and skills of 'Health Wellbeing and Relationships' and 'Healthy, Safe and Active Lifestyles'.

### Science and Technology

Students will take part in Science and Technology lessons with release from face to face teachers each week. This term students will be learning about the 'Living World'. This strand focuses on the growth and survival of living things and how their adaptations over time suit their environment. Students investigate how and why food and fibre are produced in sustainable, managed environments that enable people to grow and be healthy. This strand further develops students' knowledge and understanding of the environmental and biological sciences.

Miss Royters will be teaching all Stage 3 classes science in 2020. Miss Royters will also teach Technology to 6B and 6A. Mrs Vella will teach technology to 4/5D, 6H, 5L, 5PR and 5A.

### School magazine

School magazines will be used in the classroom to support the teaching and learning program. The cost of these magazines is included on account statements sent out last week. These magazines will stay at school for the duration of the year and be sent home in Term 4.

It has been a terrific start to the year and we look forward to the year ahead.

Kind Regards,

Stage 3 teachers