Welcome to Year 3 for Term 1, 2016

My name is Mrs Jodie Allen and I will teaching Year 3 this year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the new school year! I am looking forward to an exciting and challenging time ahead.

We already have plenty to look forward to, including, the Swimming Carnival on Friday 12th February, the Junior School Picnic on the Oval on Tuesday 16th February, the inaugural Year 3/4 camp at Lake Burrendong (22-24 Feb) and familiarising ourselves with our new routines and expectations of Primary School.

**Snapshot of Term 1:**

In English, we will be immersing ourselves in two the picture books. Firstly *Mirror by Jeannie Baker* and secondly *Duck for a Day by Meg McKinlay*. These wonderful stories will be the basis to many of writing tasks and art and craft activities. We will also continue with our THRASS based spelling program, Grammar activities and Reading groups on a weekly basis.

Our Maths work for the term will include work in the areas of Number, Measurement, Data and Pattern & Algebra. We will also be focusing on the importance of Mental Maths and learning new strategies to complete these on a daily basis. The children will continue to work on Mathletics with activities being assigned to them relating to our weekly focus.

In Science we will be studying a unit called Melting Moments (Primary Connections). The Melting moments unit is an ideal way to link science with literacy in the classroom. Every day we see or use things that have been melted or frozen, heated or cooled. All around us are items that we find both useful and attractive that have been moulded into different shapes using heating and cooling. These can range from cast iron frying pans and plastic rubbish bins to chocolate bilbies. Understanding the properties of materials and how they change state under different conditions can help materials scientists to develop even more extraordinary products to help improve our quality of life.
Our HSIE topic is Early European exploration. During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries there was a great outbreak of exploration from Europe to unknown areas of the world. Students will research the explorer Christopher Columbus and discuss the impacts that his explorations and discoveries had on the new and old world. Then they will embark upon their own research of an explorer of their choosing.

During Creative Arts we will be exploring one of the worlds leading Impressionist artists, Claude Monet. To support and enhance our learning we will be visiting the wondrous Water Garden at Mayfield Gardens to sketch and photograph their stunning bridges and water lilies. Place this webpage in your favourites, as we will be showcasing some of the artworks produced by our budding artists.

Finally I would like to say thank you to those people who are able to help with Before School Reading. Your assistance is vital to the efficacy of the program and is greatly appreciated.

Once again I extend a very big welcome to all of our Year 3 students and their families. Here’s to a wonderful term.

Regards

Mrs Jodie Allen
Year 3 Teacher, 2016

All images sourced from Google Images January, 2016