

CURRICULUM LETTER YEAR 4 - TERM 4 2023



WELCOME

We've had a busy start to the term. Students have come back from the holidays focussed, fresh and ready. Following is a summary of important dates and curriculum coverage.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- * Chapathon & Year 6 Food Stall Wednesday 26th October (Week 3)
- **Fun Day** Thursday 16th November (Week 6)
- **M3 & U5 Edu-Dance Concert** Friday 8th December (Week 9)
- **M4 Edu-Dance Concert** Monday 11th December (Week 10)
- **L1 Edu-Dance Concert** Tuesday 12th December (Week 10)
- * Last Day of Term 4 Thursday 14th December

Please also refer to the Compass Calendar for the latest up-to-date information.

ENGLISH

Reading

In Shared and Guided Reading we will continue to focus on the literal and inferred meaning when analysing and evaluating texts. A strong emphasis will be placed on providing evidence to justify answers and developing inferential skills when reading. There will also be a range of activities to explicitly decode, develop and extend vocabulary when reading and writing.

Writing

Persuasive texts, including reviews, will form the basis of Term 4's Writing program. The children are learning to use a toolkit of strategies to help develop their skills in persuasive writing. These include skills such as writing simple, compound and complex sentences, utilising a variety of persuasive devices, punctuating correctly to add meaning, and organising writing into paragraphs that begin with strong topic sentences, followed by cohesively structured evidence. Grammar, punctuation and editing will be the focus of our English Daily Reviews.

Spelling

The students will continue to cover a weekly spelling list from the SoundWaves program. Each child can access their words on their iPad, and we encourage students to review their focus and extension words at home during the week. The website is also accessible at home, where words, activities and extra worksheets are available for revision if needed.

Speaking and Listening

The students are provided with opportunities, and explicitly encouraged, to participate in daily class and group discussions. Active listening is necessary if they are to build on the ideas of others in the oral contributions they make. The students will continue to build their public speaking skills.

MATHEMATICS

There is a great deal of content to cover in the Mathematics curriculum throughout the year and Term 4 is no exception. We will be working hard right up until the end of the year on areas including fractions and decimals, number patterns, equivalent number sentences, financial mathematics, statistics and probability, as well as several topics in measurement and geometry.

The students will also be reviewing concepts taught throughout the year. We encourage students to continue practising their times tables and related division facts.

All areas of the Mathematics Curriculum and associated vocabulary will be revised during Maths Daily Reviews.

On Tuesdays this term, students will continue to be given the opportunity to work in Maths groups on targeted areas.

HASS

In History this term students will be given the opportunity to develop their historical understanding through the key concepts of sources, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy and significance. These concepts are investigated within the context of exploring the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of the Europeans, and European exploration and colonisation up to the early 1800s. The students will explore interactions between groups and determine how these experiences contributed to cultural diversity.

SCIENCE

This term in Science, the strand is Physical Science and the topic is 'Forces'.

Outcomes: Students will understand that forces can be exerted by one object on another through direct contact or from a distance.

Science Skills: With guidance, students will plan and conduct scientific investigations to find answers to questions, considering the safe use of appropriate materials and equipment. They will also consider the elements of fair tests and use formal measurements and digital technologies as appropriate to make and record observations accurately.

General Science Skills Throughout Years 1-6:

- Develop critical thinking skills by asking questions and seeking answers through scientific inquiry.
- Foster curiosity about the natural world and encourage active engagement in scientific exploration.
- Enhance communication skills by presenting findings and explaining scientific concepts.
- Promote collaboration and teamwork through group projects and experiments.
- Develop an understanding of the ethical and responsible use of scientific knowledge.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Use formative assessments such as quizzes, observations, and discussions to monitor students' understanding and progress.
- Conduct periodic summative assessments to evaluate students' mastery of the year-level outcomes.
- Encourage self-assessment and reflection to help students take ownership of their learning.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

This term we will continue to use simple visual programming environments (such as Ozobots, Dash Robots and Scratch Junior) that include developing a sequence of steps (algorithm) involving decisions made by the user (branching).

HEALTH & WELLBEING

We will continue to use the Bounce Back program. The students will participate in class discussions and activities that promote resilience and a growth mindset. Mindfulness activities are incorporated throughout the week. Alessia, our school Chaplain, will be running the 'In Real Life' program with each of the Year 4 classes each week, beginning in Week 2.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Mr Ashley Clancy / Mr Brendan Egan)

The Term 4 Physical Education sessions will have the students be participating in the sport of T-Ball. We are also excited to announce that we can continue to have the Year 4 students participating in the Water Polo program that will run in our school pool. The students will also be participating in the school's Edu Dance Programs.

With the weather starting to warm up, please ensure your child is prepared for the PE lessons with their hats, appropriate shoes, water bottle and sunscreen. Sunscreen will be available for students who need to reapply it throughout the day.

MUSIC (Mr Andrew Angel)

During Term 4, the students will:

- Perform sing a variety of action songs with body percussion and prepare a variety of class performances on tuned and untuned percussion instruments.
- Use iPads to gather musical information and **create presentations** based on music from different countries.
- Explore a variety of musical elements while **listening** and responding to a variety of music.
- Compose melodic phrases based on the Pentatonic scale and perform them to the class.
- IMSS and CHOIR. Students who participate in the IMSS program (Instrumental classes and string orchestra) will prepare and perform pieces for our annual concert. Choir students will prepare performances for Remembrance Day/assembly/Christmas performances.

ART (Mrs Leith Elliott)

This term students will:

- Consolidate the skills, techniques and concepts taught throughout the year with a focus in the fields of art, craft and design.
- Investigate and create artwork inspired by artists.
- Investigate ways artists explore themes and concepts in art.
- Enhance their artwork using the art elements of line, shape, colour, texture, tone/value and space.
- Use specific Art language and terminology when reflecting on the artwork they view and make.

FRENCH (Madame Maria Binns)

During French lessons this term we will:

- State what activities we enjoy doing in our free time using the verbs *faire* and *jouer*.
- Ask others about the activities they enjoy.
- State at what time, on what days and in what weather we participate in different activities.
- Learn about similarities and differences between free time activities of children in France and Australia.
- Observe two French children following their dreams to do the activities they love through the film *Ballerina*.

HOMEWORK

Each week, students will be given allocated tasks to provide practice in Literacy and Numeracy. We encourage students to read for at least 20 minutes each school night. Every child will have a copy of their weekly Spelling lists and it is an expectation that all students will achieve a high degree of accuracy in their weekly Spelling tests. In addition, it is also expected students to have quick and accurate recall of basic number facts with a focus on times tables.

SEESAW - SHOWCASING STUDENT WORK

Over the term, students will be sharing examples of their work showing what they have been doing in class via the Seesaw app. It will be an invaluable tool to gauge your child's progress. We encourage parents to turn on their notifications so that they will know when new work is uploaded. Your child may share an image of a draft or a piece of written work, a photo of a maths problem that they solved, a quick update on a project that they are working on in a group, or something else they have chosen that they are proud of and want to share. On many occasions, our goal is to show the learning process, and offer an insight into what learning looks like in our Year 4 classes, therefore not all work will be marked.

DIGITAL USERS AT SUBIACO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Safe and ethical digital use is a priority at Subiaco Primary School. Daily, we show our students how to utilise technology in a safe and ethical way. Parent partnership in this journey is crucial. Online safety advice for parents from e-Safety Commission can be found here https://www.esafety.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/aus-global-parent-online-safety-advice 1.pdf

The Telethon Institute have developed Beacon – a cyber-safety educational app to keep parents up to date with trusted information to keep kids safe online https://beacon.telethonkids.org.au/

If you need to contact your child during school hours, please contact the front office rather than using the Messenger app on your child's device.

IPADS STAYING AT SCHOOL

If your family would prefer that your child's iPad stays at school at any stage during the week or over the weekend, please let your class teacher know. The iPad will be secured in a safe place in the classroom. Please supply a charger so that the iPad can be charged whilst at school.

COMPASS

To avoid missing out on important information and permission forms, we urge ALL parents to access Compass through https://subiacops-wa.compass.education/ or the link on the Subiaco Primary School website under 'Quicklinks', or by downloading the 'Compass School Manager' app from the App Store or Play Store. Compass will allow you to:

- Monitor your child's attendance and enter an explanation for absence or lateness.
- Communicate with your child's teachers and update your family contact details.
- View school and class news feeds
- View the school calendar and school documentation.
- Download and view your child's academic reports.
- Book parent-teacher conferences
- Provide consent and payment for excursions ('Events')
- Pay contribution and other activity charges ('Course Confirmation/Payments')

ONLINE SAFETY HUB

We are very pleased to announce that our school has partnered with Australia's leading cyber safety experts, ySafe, to provide our parents, students and teachers with the best possible cyber safety education support.

As part of our partnership with ySafe, we have received our very own Online Safety Hub. The Online Safety Hub provides a rich source of information for you to help you manage cyber safety in the home, including engaging blogs, articles, guides and resources.

The Subiaco PS Online Safety Hub can be accessed using the following link https://subiacops.onlinesafetyhub.com.au/

SCHOOL TV - PARENT RESOURCE

School TV is an online resource that is available to our parents and publishes 10 editions per year. Current topics now on the website address issues that are relevant for children both in primary and secondary school settings including series on Mental Health, Cybersafety, School Survival, Healthy Body, Positive Parenting & Special Reports. Thank you to our P&C association for supporting this initiative and paying for the yearly subscription. To scan through what is available online visit https://subiacops.wa.schooltv.me/

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Gemma Hayley: gemma.hayley@education.wa.edu.au
Jennie Richardson: jennie.richardson@education.wa.edu.au

Sue Walsh: susan.walsh@education.wa.edu.au
Toni Shane: toni.raine@education.wa.edu.au

Katie Fatchett: <u>katie.fatchett@education.wa.edu.au</u>