

MIDDLE COMMUNITY

Term 4 Learning Newsletter



Welcome back to Term 4!

We had a very exciting Term 3, especially with the Sacrament of Eucharist and our Stella Night of Wonder and Awe Art Show. The students worked extremely hard and put a lot of effort in. Thank you for all your support!

We have another busy term ahead of us in the Middle Community. The Year 3 students will be receiving their Sacrament of Reconciliation in week 4 on the 31st October. We also have the student led conferences on the 14th November.

Just a reminder that on Friday 15th December, we will have the Stella Maris Social Justice Christmas Market at 2:00pm. Your child will be making items to sell at this market, as well as having the opportunity to buy items at this market.

We look forward to another prosperous term of working and learning together!

Inquiry

This term, students will be engaged in the connections of the Geographical world as they learn about different environments, climate zones and natural vegetation. They will learn about how different natural environmental factors impact on where and how people live.

Students will reflect on questions such as:

What is an ecosystem?

What is the cause of environmental factors (location) and how does it affect the ecosystem?

What is it like to live in different places on Earth?

Students will have the opportunity to design their own island and describe the environmental factors of their island.



Maths



This term, the students will be re-visiting multiplication and division, building on the strategies they have developed throughout the year. Students will represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division using efficient mental and written strategies.

Starting from week 1, the whole Middle Community will be involved in workshop groups focusing on multiplication. All students have been placed in focus groups according to their multiplication learning needs. These workshops will take place twice a week on Tuesday at 9:05am and Friday at 11:35am. Teachers and students will be using an online resource called Mfacts as a form of practise and assessment. We ask that students **do not** complete the **online assessment** at home as we will be doing this at school. Students are allowed to work on the **online practise questions** at home.

An expectation by the end of the year is that students working at level 3 of the curriculum are able to recall multiplication facts of two, three, five and ten times tables. Students working at level 4 of the curriculum should be able to recall times tables up to 10x10.

The next unit will be investigating Volume, Capacity and Temperature. Through a variety of hands on activities, the students will use scaled instruments to measure the volume, capacity and temperature of shapes and objects.

Students will continue to build their knowledge of analogue and digital time to the minute and convert between units of time.

Students will investigate location by creating and interpreting simple grid maps using simple scales, keys and directions.

Our final maths unit, Christmas Shopping and Money, will build on the students' knowledge of efficient addition and subtraction strategies to solve money worded problems. Activities will include creating shopping list, budgets, purchasing, and calculating change given after a purchase.

English

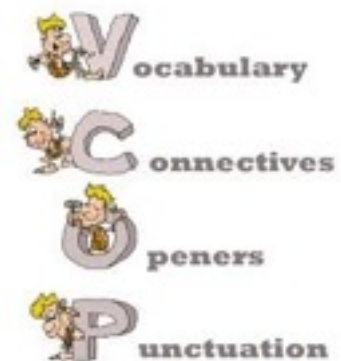


Throughout the term, students will continue to engage in 'Big Writes'. This involves students exploring and sharing ideas for writing based on a given stimulus. Stimuli will be sent home weekly, prior to students completing the 'Big Write' on Thursdays. Students are encouraged to discuss their ideas with family in order to help develop their ideas. The more students discuss the stimulus with parents and family members, the more equipped they will feel when they start to write. In term 2 and 3, students were given the opportunity to choose a genre, however, this term they will be given a specific genre. Students will be given 3 weeks to practise the craft of each genre, focusing on feedback received from previous weeks.

Each week, students will participate in focus reading groups based on their reading and comprehension needs. It is important that students continue to practise these reading strategies at home. Reading has been a powerful tool that the Middle Community have been embracing, which has developed their Vocabulary, Connectives, Sentence Openers and Punctuation (VCOP). VCOP is an effective tool that students use to up-level their writing. Students will also participate in focus writing groups based on their writing needs from self, peer and teacher feedback.

Connecting with speaking and listening, students will have an opportunity to build strategies so that they feel confident while presenting to an audience.

Throughout the term, students will be using their Writer's Notebook to express their thoughts and opinions. The purpose of the Writer's Notebook is to encourage and motivate writing. Students will be expressing and recording their ideas, that could be further developed and used in future writing pieces.



Religion

During Term 4, students will learn about the meaning behind the symbols, signs and rituals around Reconciliation. The Year 3 students will receive their Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday 31st of October (Term 4, Week 4).

Students will explore how to form and maintain positive relationships with others, self and God by using the steps of Reconciliation:

- Admitting and saying sorry
- Asking for forgiveness
- Being forgiven
- Moving forward

Students will also interpret the significance of personal responsibility in upholding the dignity of the human person on a local and global scale through a Catholic lens.

As Christmas approaches, students will be investigating the Advent story, connecting this with the choices that they make within their lives at school and home. They will be given time to reflect, give thanks, spread love, hope, peace and joy.

