

Middle Community Learning Newsletter

Term Three 2021

Creating a learning community, nurturing and integrating faith and life, in a spirit of openness.

Welcome to Term Three! It is hard to believe that we are already past the halfway mark for 2021.

Highlights this term, include:

- **Friday 30th July** - Grandparents' Liturgy (student only due to Covid restrictions)
- **Wednesday 4th August** - Middles Excursion to the Zoo
- **Wednesday 18th August** - Year 4s Excursion to Emmanuel College - Secondary Experience
- **Friday 27th August** - SCHOOL CLOSED - STUDENT FREE DAY
- **Friday 3rd September** - Father's Day Breakfast
- **Wednesday 15th September** - Hot Dog Day!
- **Friday 17th September** - Stella Maris Feast Day Mass (and last day of Term 3) 1pm finish

A reminder that **Friday 27th August** is a Student Free Day.

Wrapper Free Lunches

From Term 3, students will be eating their food inside in class groups. This will eliminate the rubbish that has been building up in our yard as well as giving the students the chance to socialise in class groups.

This also gives us a chance to re-energise our **Wrapper Free Lunchboxes**. Please try to send your child to school with no wrappers and pack their food into containers instead. Not only does this help our school environment but our planet too!



Reading Logs

Just a quick reminder for students to bring their Reading Logs to school each day. These are often needed for passwords, reading records and target work. It is important that they are in school bags each day. Once a week, teachers will sign them and check for daily reading. Please make sure that students write their home reading in the reading log and parents sign it at the end of the week.



Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this.

Please Note:

If you would like to volunteer, please make an appointment to talk about your student's learning or to simply give some feedback; please don't hesitate to email your student's teacher.

Any teacher may be contacted using their initial and last name followed by @stellamaris.catholic.edu.au, e.g. cnaraghi@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Save the Date!

Art Festival 2021 'It Starts with a Seed...'

Tuesday 26th October Green/Gold

Wednesday 27th of October Blue/Red

(Term 4 Week 4)

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm.



Stella Story

Ask your children about how they are trying to 'turn up the volume' on Respect and Kindness. Listen to what the teachers have heard around our community.

"Kindness is cool." - Kabir (MCH)

"I want to spread more kindness. I can put it on my Digital Portfolio as one of my goals." - Tanisha (MCH)

"I am trying to be kinder everyday." - Taylor (MCH)

"If you give someone kindness anywhere, you will get kindness back." - Arjun (MCS)

"Kindness is about doing something that may help others. When I was feeling alone my friends came to make me feel included." - Misha (MCS)

Kindness is a boomerang; it comes right back to you. Ethan (MCC)

"Kindness knocks on your door when you least expect it. - Surya (MCC)

"There is no key to kindness; just do it!" Holly (MCC)

"Kindness is contagious." Siyona (MCJ)

"There is no greater force than kindness" Celina (MCC)

"Yesterday Ellie and Indi gave me a friendship bracelet. It made me feel like I was part of that friendship group and included." - Luella (MCF)

"The word kindness makes me think of sunshine / When my friends help me when I always fall over." - Indi (MCF)



Wellbeing



Hello Everyone!

Welcome to Term 3! What a wonderful Term we have ahead! Term 3 is that magical term where we start to really see growth in our children, both academically, socially and emotionally. Look out for the changes in your child and enjoy them as much as you can!
They grow up way too quickly!

If you have any questions about your child needing further support academically or socially, please see your class teacher or make contact with your class' allocated Wellbeing Adjustment Coach.

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WELLBEING TIP for the term!

**#HOW
WAS
YOUR
DAY?**

How often do you tire from hearing the frequent monotone, "Good" response when you ask your child how their day was? Why not try out a few of these questions to spark conversation around the dinner table !

1. What did you eat for lunch?
2. What games did you play at recess?
3. What was the funniest thing that happened today?
4. Did anyone do anything super nice for you?
5. What was the nicest thing you did for someone else?
6. Who made you smile today?
7. Which one of your teachers would survive a zombie apocalypse? Why?
8. What challenged you today?
9. What is something you're looking forward to?
10. What would you rate your day on a scale of 1 to 10? Why?
11. What is one thing you did today that was helpful?
12. When did you feel most proud of yourself today?
13. What rule was the hardest to follow today?

Reminder!

PSG MINUTES

A reminder to PSG families- if you have any PSG Minutes to sign and return, please return these back to the school office as soon as possible.



Discovery

Key Understanding:

People use science to understand the world and solve challenges in regenerative ways

Lines of Inquiry:

(Statements or questions that will help guide the unit and unpack the Key Understanding)

Throughout the term, students will continue to explore the questions:

What makes something living/non-living? (form)

What is an ecosystem? (Connection)

What factors are positive and negative impacts on ecosystems? (cause and effect)

How do our actions impact the environment?(Positive and Negative Impacts) (cause and effect)

How can we use Science to create regenerative solutions to solve challenges in our world?

Over the course of Term 3, students will be investigating the life cycles of living things and non-living things. Students will develop an understanding of the regularity and predictability of cycles. Students will explore ecosystems and make observations by grouping and classifying and in classifying things as living or nonliving they begin to recognise that classifications are not always easy to define or apply. Their understanding of classification and form and function is broadened through an exploration of the properties of natural and processed materials. They use their understanding of relationships between components of simple systems to make predictions.



Encounter

Key Understanding:

Spirituality connects us to land and empowers us to be stewards

Lines of Inquiry:

(Statements or questions that will help guide the unit and unpack the Key Understanding)

Throughout the term, students will continue to explore the questions: What is stewardship?

What is our connection to this country?

How have people made an impact on the world?

How can we be stewards and make a positive impact on our world?

Over the course of Term 3, students will identify specific examples of how they can be stewards for the earth and how they can make an impact through their own choices to make a better future. We will explore what stewardship is and looks like, so that we understand our impact on the world around us and how caring for our home planet can empower us to be stewards and encourage others to do the same.

With a focus on Naidoc Week, students will look at how First Nations People connect to the land through the lens of healing both the land and our relationships as we begin to prepare for Reconciliation in Term 4.



English

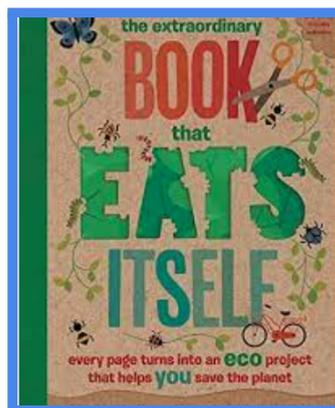
In Term 3, students will be learning about nonfiction texts where they will learn the format for writing an explanation, information and hybrid texts. This work will be linked to our Discovery theme of 'Habitat Heroes'.



Students will be developing their research and paraphrasing skills. They will be using these skills to develop information and explanation texts and considering the features of non-fiction texts. Big Writes will give them the opportunity to write their own texts.

In Reading, students will be developing more advanced reading skills, such as critiquing and analysing texts. They will be encouraged to bring their own prior knowledge into their reading experience. Students will be reading and developing research skills linked to our Discovery theme. Small Reading Groups work daily with class teachers to unpack texts and meet students at their point of need.

As we move towards the end of term students will be focusing on a '**solution focused inquiry project**' and using what they have learnt in reading and writing to support this project.



Big Writes

Big Write will take place in weeks 4, 7 and 10. Students will be given a stimulus to bring home and enter into Big Talk about the given stimulus.

Please continue to support your child at home with daily reading and Big Talks, relating to our Big Writes. Daily reading should be recorded in your child's Reading Log.

Thank you for your continuing support with Home Learning Tasks.

Maths



At the beginning of Term 3, students will be learning about **Mass**. When investigating Mass students will be using scales to measure, compare and order the mass of different objects. They will use the formal units of grams and kilograms.

In the **Fractions and Decimals** unit, students will explore different



representations of fractions and investigate the relationship between fractions and decimals. Students will learn to recognise that the place value system can be extended to tenths and hundredths.

In our **3D Objects** unit students will make models of three-dimensional objects and describe, compare and classify them based on their properties. They will relate and connect 2D shapes to 3D objects based on their properties.



Our final unit of the semester is **Chance**, students will conduct chance experiments, identifying and describing possible outcomes and recognising variation in results. Students will be using appropriate language to describe possible everyday events and order their chances of occurring.

Workshops this term will be **Addition & Subtraction** for students to continue to consolidate their understanding from Term 1 and 2. We will then be having **Mfacts workshops** which will continue to develop students' understanding and strategies of multiplication facts. We encourage students to access this online learning tool at home. Students can complete practice tests and watch strategy videos. The online program has assessment activities that will be conducted during school learning time.

An expectation by the end of the year is that Year 3 students are able to recall multiplication facts of two, three, five and ten times tables. Year 4 students should be able to recall times tables up to 10 x 10.

Our aim is that students fully understand the concept of multiplication, rather than just rote learn times tables. Please help your child to see that multiplication is 'groups of', such as 5 groups of 3 is 15. This can be shown as an array. **Mfacts link:** <http://mfacts121.com/>

Essential Assessment: We continue to encourage students to access **My Numeracy and Sunset Maths** tasks at home. The My Numeracy tasks are based on students' personalised needs. Students have completed their assessment here at school. The tasks that are set are the areas each student needs to consolidate. We also encourage you to play board games and encourage your children to see where they can find maths in everyday life (at the supermarket, cooking etc). Another great way to practise maths skills is through quick five minute activities. This may include counting, recalling number facts and playing times table championships as a family. You can even do this in the car on the way to school or to after school activities. Maths really is everywhere!