

Term 3 Overview

Stage 3



A focus on...School Community Charter

In December 2018, the NSW Department of Education launched the 'School Community Charter'. It was devised to ensure that schools are respectful learning environments for our students and wider school communities. It aligns with the vision and values outlined in the Department of Education's Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022.

The Charter outlines what parents can expect in engaging with their school as a partner in their students learning, as well as highlighting some unacceptable behaviours that have no place in our school communities. The School Community Charter provides a framework for establishing positive behaviours and terms of engagement.

The Charter is based on the concept of the best education happening when we all work together and 'play a part'. It focuses on three main expectations:

Collaborative – We work in partnership to promote student learning.

Respectful – We treat each other with respect and fairness.

Communication – We communicate in a positive and constructive manner.

If you would like to access more information about the School Community Charter, or read a copy of the full document, it is available at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/school-community-charter>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 & 3 – Key Learning Area Content Summaries

4 – Reminders



KLA Content Summaries

English

This term, our speaking and listening activities are closely linked to two upcoming oral competitions. The first is a school based oral reading competition in Week 5. The second is to support the Upper Blue Mountains Speaking Competition. Where possible, links are made with our writing text type of persuasion and our History topic of post-colonial life. Students will take part in a range of activities that support their confidence in presenting oral reading and speaking to others. Both classes also take part in daily fluency activities to support comprehension.

Our writing focus this term addresses the structure and personalisation of persuasive texts. Through the 'Seven Steps to Writing Success' program, students will investigate how to plan through exciting collaborative activities, sharing their thoughts with peers on how to present their thinking. Adding to the formal structure of writing, students will explore how their choice of language, both technical and emotive language can help to support the presentation of arguments.

Through a variety of reading activities this term, students will be focussed on extending their vocabularies and developing their knowledge of English grammar. By working on fluency and extending their ability to comprehend what they read, students will continue to consolidate their understanding from the literal level to the inferential and critical levels.



Mathematics

Year 5

Students will use various tools to interpret information from the Internet, the media, the environment and other sources that use large numbers. They will check solutions to problems, including addition and subtraction by using the inverse operation. They will be challenged to use appropriate operations when solving problems in real-life situations.

Students will work through activities that require them to round numbers appropriately when obtaining estimates to numerical calculations. They will use estimation to check the reasonableness of answers to multiplication and division calculations. They will try to express mixed numerals as improper fractions and vice versa, through the use of diagrams and number lines, leading to a mental strategy.

By exploring, students will come to recognise the need for a formal unit larger than the kilogram. They will use the 'tonne' to record large masses, e.g. sand, soil, and vehicles.

Year 6

Students in Year 6 will learn to recognise the location of negative whole numbers in relation to zero and place them on a number line using the term 'integers' to describe positive and negative whole numbers. They will model square and triangular numbers and record each number group in numerical and diagrammatic forms.

Students will compare and order simple fractions with related denominators using strategies such as diagrams, the number line and equivalent fractions. They will solve word problems involving the multiplication and division of decimals, including those involving money.

Students will measure mass using scales and record their findings using decimal notation of up to three decimal places (e.g. 0.875 kg). They will investigate, with and without the use of digital technologies, angles at a point and establish that they form an angle of revolution and add to 360° .

Science and Technology

This term, Stage 3 students will be studying a unit on magnetism. They will explore how magnets exert a force on certain objects and how that force affects the object. Through hands-on activities, students identify the materials that magnets attract, their poles and magnetic fields, the distance at which they act, and how the pull of magnetism is different from the pull of gravity. There will be a greater focus this term on how students question, predict, plan and construct investigations.

Classes will also get an opportunity to experiment with the new Lego Mindstorm EV3 kits. These kits provide hands-on opportunities for students to create designs, which can be then acted on through coding instructions.

History

This term includes a study of colonial Australia in the 1800s and its impact on economic, political and social changes. Students learn about what life was like for different groups of people in the colonial period and examine significant events and people. The unit provides opportunities to develop historical understanding through key concepts including sources, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy and significance. Students develop an understanding of what we know about the lives of people in Australia's colonial past, how the Australian colony developed over time and how colonial settlement changed the environment.

Creative Arts

In visual art students will begin by glazing their ceramic tiles or funny face mugs which they started last term. They will then study some of the artworks by Japanese artist Hokusai. Students will create their own version of a great wave and a print of Mt Fuji.

In music, students will be extending their understanding of written music notation. They will be singing a range of songs and selecting instruments to use for accompaniment. Students will also explore rhythmic and melodic patterns using tuned percussion.



PDHPE

As part of our Positive Behaviour for Learning initiative, classes will spend time discussing the "Value of the Week" and what this looks like in various contexts within school life.

Following our visit last term from Life Education, Stage 3 students will take part in a series of personal health lessons which explore issues around legal and illegal drugs. Students investigate the decision-making process and improve decision-making skills by looking at choices, consequences, responsibility, facts and influences. This includes conversations about:

- what is a drug and how drugs are classified
- effects of drugs on the body
- analysing health messages about drugs in the media
- messages around non-use – normative data, dispelling myths
- influences on decision making – family, peers, media, culture, financial, legal
- strategies and skills to be safe

The first few weeks of term will provide an opportunity to brush up on our athletics skills before we attend the school Athletics Carnival in Week 5. Thereafter, weekly PE lessons will be focused on skills used in gymnastics. Stage 3 students will also begin weekly dance lessons in their preparation for the Year 6 Farewell in Term 4.

Reminders:

Overnight Excursion

Our camp excursion is only weeks away! Please ensure your medical/consent form has been returned and any questions you may have about medication have been asked. It would be most helpful if parents had a conversation with their child about safety, caring for their belongings, following teacher instructions and listening to tour guides whilst on camp. Mr. Atkinson, Ms McMahon and Ms Eves will be attending.

Oral Reading and Public Speaking Competition

Students will be involved in both Oral Reading and Public Speaking in class this term, leading to selected students entering in Blue Mountains competitions. This is towards the end of Term 3 so more information will come later.

High School Transition

In Term 3, students in Year 6 are already beginning to think about what next year is going to be like. To demystify misconceptions and to help with these initial thoughts, we will take part in several transition activities this term, with more to come in Term 4. This term we have a visiting high school librarian in to talk with us, followed by a visit to Katoomba High School later on in the term for the 'Big Day In'.



Important Term 3 Dates

1 Aug – Festival of Instrumental Music	21 Aug – K-6 Oral Reading Competition
6 Aug – Education Week Open Day	30 Aug – P&C Disco
7-9 Aug – S3 Camp Excursion	3 Sept – P&C meeting
9 Aug – P&C meeting	5 Sept – KHS Big Day In
12 Aug – School Tour	6 Sept – Zone Athletics Carnival
13 Aug – Auskick after school program starts	10 Sept – School Tour
14 Aug – Basketball Gala Day	17 Sept – School Photos
16 Aug – K-6 Athletics Carnival	23 Sept – Principal's Assembly
19 Aug – Principal's Assembly	26 Sept – Snake Tails Incursion
	27 Sept - PBL Mufti Day (yellow)

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