

Term 4 Overview

Stage 1



A focus on...attendance

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. Schools in partnership with parents work to encourage and support regular attendance of students. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children. Just one days' absence each fortnight amounts to nearly one and a half years of absence from school by the end of Year 12.

While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as part of their duty of care, record and monitor part and whole day absences. Communication of information about attendance to parents is also part of our responsibility. Schools, in providing a caring teaching and learning environment, which addresses the learning and support needs of students, including those with additional learning and support needs or complex health conditions, foster students' sense of wellbeing and belonging to the school community.

In our school context, there are 5% of students currently presenting concerns with an attendance rate of less than 85% this year. There are a number of factors which appear to impact on the data related to significant student absence, which have been consistent across years - mainly sickness, family holidays and special needs. Despite this fact, the data represents a large improvement compared to the same period of time last year, when 13% of students were identified as attendance concerns.

Families are encouraged to plan travel during school holiday periods. We also invite parents to work with teachers and Executive to plan supports for their children when they are experiencing difficulties attending school or getting to school on time. We hope to continue in our efforts to communicate openly and honestly about the issue of attendance and work together to ensure students get the most from their educational opportunities at our school.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 & 3 – Key Learning Area Content Summaries

4 – Stage 1 Business; Important Dates



KLA Content Summaries

English

In Writing, all Stage 1 students will work on writing to entertain as they compose imaginative writing pieces. Topics will be varied and the 'Seven Steps to Writing Success' will be revised from previous terms to facilitate success in writing. Rhymed verse, narrative and sing speech bubbles will be covered. In Grammar, Punctuation and Vocabulary, Year 1 will focus on adverbs, alliteration and adjectives. We will also revise nouns, verbs and pronouns. Year 2 will focus on apostrophes used to signify a contraction and using an apostrophe for missing letters. We will also focus on using suffixes and verbs in our writing. A list of spelling rules for each week will be linked with the homework.

Speaking and Listening will involve exploring different methods of communication, including Aboriginal English, sign language and body language. Reciting poems, chants, rhymes and songs that include alliteration and varied sound patterns will support our writing. Responding to instructions from teachers and classmates and using active listening behaviours across all settings at school will continue to be a focus.



Mathematics

Our main area of learning this term is in the Number strand. In whole number they will apply place value, informally to count, order, read and represent two- and three-digit numbers as well as count forwards and backwards by twos, fives and tens. They will also focus on multiplication, division and fractions. Students will represent and model halves, quarters and eighths. Using materials students will model fractions and further develop their understanding to compare fractions. The term 'three-quarters' may be used to name the remaining parts after one-quarter has been identified.

In Geometry, we will revisit 3D objects and describe the number of flat surfaces, curved surfaces, faces, edges and vertices.

In Measurement, students will record volume and capacity comparisons informally using drawings, numerals and words, and by referring to the uniform informal unit used.

In Chance, students will describe and compare chance events in social and experimental contexts.

Science and Technology

Material World is our focus strand this term. It focuses on how materials can be changed, manipulated and combined. Students have the opportunity to develop a design solution demonstrating the suitability of materials for a purpose. Students will develop their understanding of the properties of materials and their uses. Focus questions guiding our teaching and learning are - what changes occur when materials are combined? and how do the properties of materials determine their use?

The excitement will grow as students investigate how materials can be changed by bending, twisting and stretching. The fun continues as students also investigate how different materials can be combined. An interesting aspect to our learning will also cover a range of natural materials available locally or through trade used by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples for a specific cultural purpose.

History

Students will be identifying and describing significant people, events, places and sites in the local community over time. Our four main inquiry questions guiding our teaching and learning are - what aspects of the past can you see today? what do they tell us? what remains of the past are important to the local community? how have changes in technology shaped our daily life?

Investigating aspects of our local Blue Mountains history, we will identify a significant person, building, site and/or part of the natural environment in our community and discuss what they reveal about the past and why they are considered important. This aspect will also be covered through the teaching and learning program in the library with Mrs Colton.

Creative Arts

In visual art, students will focus on mini-beasts. They will create a clay snail, then select a butterfly, ladybird, bee or caterpillar shape and design and paint their mini-beast wind chime.

In music, students will continue to investigate the elements of written music. They will sing a range of songs and accompany them with xylophones, recorders, and percussion. Students will build up skills and confidence with recorders, using simple melodies, repeated patterns and call and response. They will also experiment with rhythm patterns and ostinatos in group percussion. Part of our music lessons will also be allocated to supporting students with individual and group performances for the Art and Music Showcase.



PDHPE

We have a busy term and will cover a range of health and physical education topics.

We are fortunate to have a cricket skills workshop in Week 2, tennis lessons from Week 3 until near the end of term and some students will also attend Swim Scheme for 2 weeks mid-term.

We will continue to participate in daily fitness lessons and further develop student's fundamental movement skills, including throwing, catching and running.

The dance component of the PDHPE syllabus will be taught across the stage with some enjoyable dance routines for everyone to have fun in the lead up to the end of the year.

Safety at home, in the water, near roads and on the internet will be addressed through interactive lessons, such as 'Safety Town' website.

Personal health choice and living healthily is another topic for 5 weeks.

Stage 1 Business:

If you are able to share your knowledge with us about our Science or Geography topics, we are keen to have you involved. Please just see a Stage 1 teacher and let them know you're interested.

Homework will consist of weekly spelling, Mathletics tasks and home readers. Homework is due each Friday. Remember to fill out the home reading journal.

A cricket workshop will be held in Week 2 and Tennis will be our focus sport from week 3.

Remember to pack a healthy lunch and labelled school hat and water bottle each day as the temperature heats up so young minds stay active and alert.

Remember to check our Skoolbag app as Term 4 can become quite busy with end of year events, and notes and reminders are communicated through there.



Important Term 4 Dates

22/10 – 1/2A Discovery Tour

25/10 – Cricket Skills Clinic

31/10 – 1/2B Discovery Tour

1/11 – P&C Meeting

4/11 – Principal's Assembly

7/11 – Outdoor Classroom Day

11/11-22/11 – Swim Scheme

12/11 – S1 Operation Art Workshop

14/11 – S1 Excursion

26/11 – P&C Meeting

29/11 – Stage 3 Fun Day

2/12 – Principal's Assembly

4/12 – Showcase

5/12 – Parent Helpers Afternoon Tea

9/12 – Level 3 Reward

9/12 – K-2 Christmas Concert

11/12 – Presentation Day Assembly

13/12 – Student Reports go home

18/12 – Stage 1 Party Day

18/12 – Last Day for students

Leura Public School

Corner Mount Hay Rd and Willow Park Ave
Leura, NSW, 2780
4784 1251
leura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au