

# Term 4 Overview

Stage 2



## 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.

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# KLA Content Summaries

## English

Stage 2 students will continue to read, view and respond to increasingly challenging texts. Differentiated guided reading groups are an important part of reading in Stage 2 classes, as well as modelled and independent reading. Online reading programs and self-paced comprehension boxes are also used to support individual differentiated instruction.

Students are provided with many opportunities for speaking and listening throughout the term.

This term, Stage 2 continues working on the “Seven Steps to Writing Success” program, consolidating narrative writing. This will be followed by poetry writing.

The Stage 2 spelling program continues to provide differentiation across the stage. Students are grouped appropriately and are focusing on word families in Term 4. Students will be assessed each week using either an unseen dictation, word lists or an editing passage. Each assessment includes an unseen word following the same letter pattern.



## Mathematics

**Whole Number:** applies place value to order, read and represent numbers of up to five digits.

**Addition & Subtraction:** uses mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction involving two-, three-, four- and five-digit numbers.

**Multiplication & Division:** uses mental and informal written strategies for multiplication and division.

**Fractions and Decimals:** represents, models and compares commonly used fractions and decimals.

**Volume and Capacity:** measures, records, compares and estimates volumes and capacities using litres, millilitres and cubic centimetres.

**3D Space:** makes, compares, sketches and names three-dimensional objects, including prisms, pyramids, cylinders, cones and spheres, and describes their features.

**Angles:** identifies, describes, compares and classifies angles.

**Chance:** describes and compares chance events in social and experimental contexts.

Students will continue working in stage-wide graded Mathematics groups in Number. These groups are designed to provide differentiation and support for the wide variety of learning styles and abilities across the stage. These groups ran very successfully in Term 3.

Mathletics is an important resource available to parents, which is used for homework as well as in school.

## Science and Technology

Stage 2 students will investigate the Material World strand which focuses on how solids and liquids change state and the properties of natural and processed materials. They will identify the observable characteristics of solids and liquids, how they behave in different ways, and observe that gases have mass and take up space. Students will explore how knowledge of states of matter and their changes can help inform practices and decision-making. They will also begin to recognise that not all substances can be easily classified on the basis of their observable properties.

Students will continue to use a variety of technology in the classroom including the new Interactive Panels and Chromebooks.

## History

Students investigate the reasons behind the great journeys of exploration. They will learn about significant individuals of the Age of Exploration (circa 1400–1800) and closely examine the journey of one explorer, trader or navigator. They will develop skills of historical inquiry; learning to pose research questions, locate and analyse information, communicate their findings to others, and reflect upon and evaluate what they have learned. By the end of the unit, students should be able to identify key reasons for the exploration of the era and understand some of its effects.

## Creative Arts

In visual art, students will complete their study of John Olsen with their own painting of “Sydney Sun.” They will then paint a design on a wooden lizard door hanger.

In music, students will continue to build an understanding of the elements of written music. They will sing a range of songs and accompany them with xylophones, recorders, and other instruments. Students will also explore 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

Sport:

Stage 2 will begin the term with a cricket coaching clinic. This will be followed by the introduction of Tee Ball where students will learn the skills of batting, fielding and base running. Additionally, students will learn rules and gameplay, culminating in a stage Round Robin competition near the end of the term. Swim School will take place for some students in Weeks 5 and 6.

Health and Personal Development: Stage 2 will begin Term 4 by studying Healthy Living. Students will discuss types of food and identify healthy and unhealthy foods. They will explain the need for healthy food, identify foods to eat every day, discuss alternative ways to make food healthier and identify information on food products. This will be followed by a Safe Living unit, incorporating road, water and cyber safety and First Aid.



### Homework

In Term 4, students will complete a research assignment on an Australian animal. They will be encouraged to choose an unusual example. This assignment can be done in any format eg. poster, Powerpoint presentation, model, speech etc.

Students will also complete a spelling task from the grid and complete their assigned Mathematics activities each week. It is important that Homework is handed in at school each Friday.

### Excursion

At the end of the term, Stage 2 will finish the year with a Picnic in the Park (weather permitting). Details will follow later in the term.



## Important Term 4 Dates

25/10 – Cricket Skills Clinic

1/11 – P&C Meeting

4/11 – Principal's Assembly

7/11 – Outdoor Classroom Day

11/11-22/11 – Swim Scheme

13/11 – S2 Operation Art Workshop

22/11 – Soccer Gala Day

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

11/12 – Presentation Day Assembly

13/12 – Student Reports go home

18/12 – S2 Picnic in the Park

18/12 – Last Day for students

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