



Education

**TERRIGAL PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*"Preparing our Children for the future  
in a Positive and Caring Environment."*

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Friday 10 February 2023

**WELCOME TO STAGE 2**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are extremely excited to be teaching Stage 2 this year at Terrigal Public School. Term 1 is always an exciting and busy term with lots of fun things to look forward to. It is also the time to develop strong routines and work habits that will set the foundations for a successful year.

The Stage 2 Team:

3B with Mr Bridge  
3C with Mr Botfield  
3H with Mrs Murphy  
3M with Ms McCann  
3/4R with Mrs Read (Monday - Thursday) and Mr Meldrum (Friday)  
4A with Ms May  
4C with Miss Barnett  
4D with Mr Delaney  
4J with Mr Ridley  
Science and Technology with Ms Neale  
Library with Mrs Castro or Mrs Hamilton-Foster

Students in Stage 2 will be exposed to all Key Learning Areas during Term 1. Our strong structure will focus around the following:

**ENGLISH:** Students will participate in English activities on a daily basis and will include:

**Speaking and Listening:** Listening exercises and speaking activities to help students develop confidence when speaking in front of an audience.

**Reading:** Students will participate in guided reading groups on a weekly basis, focusing on vital reading skills, appropriately levelled to maximise student results. They will also take part in a comprehension program that aims to build various skills that will help them interpret different texts.

**Writing:** Students will have weekly spelling with a focus on a sound for each week, which will be explicitly taught in class. They will also take part in various writing activities with a strong focus on producing imaginative texts. Students will be encouraged to build skills with text structure, punctuation and the use of grammar.

**MATHEMATICS:** Stage 2 students will be exposed to mathematics on a daily basis. Activities will include consolidating number skills, problem solving and the explicit teaching of all the different areas of mathematics. Students will be grouped appropriately for some activities.

**PD/H/PE:** Stage 2 sport will be held each Wednesday. Students will build their fundamental movement skills that can be applied to various games and sports. To help with their personal development, students will be taking part in two units of work, focusing on *Achievement* and *Being Resilient*.

**SCIENCE:** Students in Stage 2 will take part in the '**Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden**' program. This fantastic program focuses on effective and sustainable gardening practices, as well as, healthy and safe cooking. Students will conduct scientific investigations and consider the agricultural processes to grow plants and raise animals.

**HISTORY:** Students will be working on a unit of work called, '**Community and Remembrance**'. This topic provides a study of identity and diversity in both a local and broader context. Students in Stage 2 will identify the importance of Country and Place to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who belong to a local area. Then moving from the heritage of their local area, students explore the historical features and diversity of Terrigal. They will examine local, state and national symbols and emblems of significance, and celebrations and commemorations, both locally and in other places around the world.

**CREATIVE ARTS:** Students will participate in a fantastic visual arts program that teaches a variety of forms and foundations of art. Students will also participate in music lessons and focus on the various elements of music.

#### **Some other information about Stage 2:**

**COMMUNICATION:** Strong communication is valued in Stage 2. Class Dojo will be the primary source of communication and will be sighted daily by teachers. Parents and carers are also more than welcome to phone or email the school if they wish to speak to their child's teacher.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework is handed out each week. **Home Reading** is part of our homework schedule this year and will be a focus for 2023. Students are to record (on a home reading card we will send home soon) the books they read. Students can read as many books as they like but there is to be only one entry made each weekday. **Homework will begin in week 5.**

**ONLINE LEARNING:** Online learning spaces like **Google Classroom** will be used throughout the year to help students collect, interpret, organise and present information. Each student will have a direct link to these services through their student portal. All students will be guided carefully to help them build their online learning skills. All students also have access to the online programs *Essential Assessment* (mathematics) and *Soundwaves* (spelling).

**PARENT INFORMATION EVENING:** On Wednesday 22 February our school will hold its annual Parent Information Evening. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and gather valuable information about the year ahead. The scheduled time for Stage 2 is between 4:50pm and 5:30pm. More information regarding this event will be coming soon.

**RESOURCE PACKS:** Resource packs this year will provide each student in Stage 2 with the required text and exercise books to successfully participate in learning programs. Students will also be provided with lead pencils, a ruler, sharpener, eraser and glue sticks. Although classrooms do provide some coloured pencils, it is recommended that students have their own supply of coloured pencils. The book pack is \$50 and can be paid online or via the school office.

**NAPLAN:** This year NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) will be administered in Term 1. The assessments will begin for all Year 3 students with writing on Wednesday 15 March. Students will then complete tests for reading, conventions of language and numeracy. If your child is absent on a test day, they are able to complete the assessment(s) they missed in catch-up sessions that will run until the end of the testing period, which is Monday 27th March. There is a *Public Demonstration Site* that provides sample tests to help students become familiar with the NAPLAN test format. This can be found at <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>. All Year 3 students will also participate in practice tests at school before the commencement of NAPLAN. More information regarding NAPLAN will be given to you in the coming weeks.

#### **Some dates for your diary:**

- Tuesday 21 February – School Swimming Carnival
- Wednesday 22 February – Parent Information Evening
- Wednesday 15 March to Monday 27 March - NAPLAN for Year 3 students.
- Thursday 6 April – Last Day of Term

If you have any questions regarding your child's learning please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher. We are always happy to talk to you and sort out any queries or concerns you may have. We look forward to working with you and the students of Stage 2 this year.

Stage 2 Teachers