Welcome back to Semester 2!

The students all seem to have had a restful break and have made a great start to our second semester, displaying increased confidence and leadership. They are raring to go!

Given that it is a beginning of a new semester, it is a good opportunity for us to provide some information that will be handy for the rest of the school year.

Camp:
We are all looking forward to our Sovereign Hill Camp next week. Just a reminder:
- Clearly label all items of clothing and equipment with your child’s name
- This is a tech free camp- no mobile phone, Ipods or Ipads. Teachers will take photos and store them on R Drive for students to access. **We are visiting an 1850’s camp.**

  **Bus leaves school @ 9:00am  **  **Returns @ 5:30pm.**
  **Camp 1 - R6, R3, R11 Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st July**
  **Camp 2 - R1, R2, R4 Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd July**

Peer Mediators:
The Year Four students are the future leaders of our school and we congratulate them on being such great role models for the younger and older students. The Year Four teachers are continually impressed. Last term a large number of students completed the Peer Mediator training and were selected to become Peer Mediators for the rest of this year. We look forward to seeing what great skills they display.

Home Reading:
Home reading should be done every night for a minimum of 20 minutes. We have a large selection of books for the students to choose from. All of the texts are selected to cater for individual needs. Every student has a book box with up to three books at their ability level.
Spelling:
Each student has a take home spelling book, which contains their weekly spelling words. Every student has individual words. During class, students complete spelling activities based on our ‘Write to Read’ spelling codes, to improve their spelling and expand their vocabulary.

Maths:
This term we will be focusing on Number & Algebra: Decimals and Fractions. We will also continue timetables and ‘Mental Maths’ activities. We will also be setting individual Math’s goals to continually move forward with our learning.

Mathletics/Study Ladder:
All students are allocated a username and password for Mathletics and Study ladder. Your child’s details are located in their diary. These programs form part of our learning program in class and can be used to reinforce Maths and English skills at home.

Inquiry:
Our Inquiry for Term 3 is ‘Our Australian Story’- How have the challenges of the past influenced our Australian identity? Our guiding questions for the unit are:

- What are the stories of the first fleet? Their reasons for traveling? Who travelled? Their Experiences?
- What is a world explorer and navigator?
- Why did people from other countries come to Australia?
- What was life like for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people before the arrival of European settlement?
- What were the early challenges faced by the early European settlers and Australia’s indigenous population?
- Why is the Gold Rush an important aspect of Australian history, especially in the state of Victoria?

The students will also be learning more about how to develop their skills as collaborators, communicators, being self-managers of their own learning and critical thinkers; who analyse and question.

Swimming:
This term the students will have the opportunity to participate in a one week intensive swimming program at Leisurelink in Belmont. The program commences on Monday 29th August and finishes on Friday 2nd September.

Further information regarding the swimming program will be sent home in the coming weeks. This information will also be available on the school app.

School Photos:
Our school photos will be taken on Wednesday 10th August and Thursday 11th August. All orders for both individual and family photos are to be placed online.
Book Week:
Each year as part of our Book Week Celebrations, students have the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. The dress up day will be Friday 26th August and the parade will be held in the stadium at 8.45am.

Student Led Conferences:
Student led conferences are an opportunity for your child to share with you their learning experiences and celebrate their progress in all curriculum areas. The date of the conferences will be confirmed early in the term. You will receive information about how to book a time that best suits your family.

Important Dates – Term 3

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- Whole School assembly in Stadium
- Sovereign Hill Camp
- 3-6 Assembly
- School Photos
- 3-6 Assembly
- Curriculum Day – Student Free Day
- Book Week Dress Up Parade in Stadium 8.45
- Book Week Speaker: Author/Illustrator Sue De Gennaro
- 3-6 Assembly
- Swimming
- Swimming
- Swimming
- Swimming
- Father’s Day Stall
- 3-6 Assembly
Assembly and Student of the Week:
Our 3-6 assembly takes place once a fortnight. Class teachers will inform families if their child is the ‘Student of the Week’ early in the week of the Assembly. This is awarded for behaviour that displays our school values of ‘Respect’, ‘Friendship’ and ‘Doing your best’. Awards are presented fortnightly at our school assemblies on Friday afternoons @ 2:30pm.

Nude Food:
Our school promotes and encourages families to send along lunches that contain ‘nude food’ in order to reduce the amount of rubbish at school. Awards are handed out at assembly to recognise children who regularly have a nude food lunch.

Meetings:
If you would like to chat about any issues, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s classroom teacher. Most issues can be resolved with a message in the diary, phone call or a quick chat. However, if you require a longer discussion, teachers are available most Mondays after school.

Year Four @ Torquay College:
Imagination and personal endeavour characterise the Year four students at Torquay College. As teachers, our aim is to promote wonder and imagination in learning and support all of the students to develop the skills and attributes to achieve their goals and passions. The Year four curriculum rigorously teaches the key skills that aid intellectual and social development in the second decade of the 21st Century. These are fundamental to the development of articulate, literate and numerate students. In Year four creativity is nurtured and acknowledged. We listen carefully to the imaginative reflections of our students, encourage them to pose questions and to pursue their curiosity in learning. Our focus for Year four is on living within a community and growing in the understanding of how our choices and actions impact on others.

The Year 4 Team
Victoria Long (Team Leader), Shannon Cormack, Jake Mason, Peter Aquillina, Di Dendle, Margie Foulkes, Emma Dukker & Anika Helene