



COPACABANA PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Stage 2 - Term 1 2021 - Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Welcome to Year 3 and 4 2020. The Stage 2 teaching team consists of:

3/4S – Mrs Annette Sutton

4/5S – Mr Andrew Smyth

3/4M – Mr Chris Mensforth

2/3R – Mrs Michelle Robins

Mrs Isbester, Mrs Mumford, and Mrs Johnson– RFFT and Learning Support.



We look forward to providing a rewarding, balanced program and a fulfilling year for all students. Below is a brief outline of the term's program.

English

- **Reading** - Children will be participating in reading groups. This involves a combination of guided, whole class and individual reading activities, using class novels, readers, school magazines and big books. Children are also encouraged to enter the Premier's Reading Challenge.
- **Writing** – The focus text types for this term will be Narratives and Expositions. Specific grammar skills will be taught in directed lessons.
- **Spelling** – Each student has a spelling list each week which caters for his/her level of competency. Spelling activities will occur during the week using the spelling rule. Spelling tests will occur on Friday.
- **Talking and Listening** – The children will be given the opportunity to be involved in classroom discussions, debates and presentations. The children will be asked to present a speech to the class each term. Teachers will send out separate notes (at the beginning of each term) outlining specific information about each speech, allowing the children ample opportunity to prepare.
- **Handwriting** – Handwriting lessons will aim to develop fluency using the NSW Foundation style of writing. Weekly lessons will occur, using the Handwriting textbook and work book with a focus on size, shape and slope of letters. Children are encouraged to use joining letters in all books. Students in Year 3 will be working towards earning their cursive licence. Students in Year 4 will be working towards earning a pen licence – which allows them to write with pen in their books.

Mathematics

- Concepts will be covered in the content strands Number, Space and Geometry, Measurement, Data, Patterns and Algebra. Working Mathematically (Problem solving) is a process strand that will be linked into all of the content strands.
- Stage 2 will be involved in Maths groups across the stage for the Number strand.
- All children will continue to be encouraged to master their Times Tables – children need to practise regularly to ensure quick recall of facts.
- *Mathletics will form part of the children's weekly activities.* All children have a password and username.

Geography and History.

History will be focused on during Semester One.

STEM Groups

STEM Groups is a new initiative for Copacabana Public School. Throughout the year **all** students will have the opportunity to experience STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) in stage-based groups. These groups will change each term and the students will be able to experience a variety of STEM based challenges. The STEM Groups will be taught by Mrs. Mumford and Mrs. Johnson.



Science

Copacabana Public School will be continuing to implement the new Science Syllabus in 2021. Lots of hands on experiments will be taking place and the children will hypothesise and test their knowledge and skills. Mrs Johnson will be conducting these lessons. STEM lessons will also be conducted across the stage throughout the year.

Personal Development / Health

The topics covered during Term 1 will be: School and Class Rules. Children will focus on school and class rules, anti-bullying and friendship strategies.

Sport / Fitness

The children will participate in a weekly Sport lesson on Friday. The children will also be preparing for the Cross Country Carnival which is scheduled for late Term 1. Stage Two will also be playing a stage game on Thursdays, so runners are encouraged on that day.

Creative and Practical Arts

Art and craft lessons will be taught introducing students to a variety of techniques and media. Art and Craft lessons will be linked with our Literacy, HSIE and Science units.

Technology

Stage 2 children will be receiving technology lessons within their classroom. This term the focus will be on further developing the children's Microsoft Word, Publisher, PowerPoint, google classroom and touch typing skills. We would recommend that children bring their own set of headphones to stay at school.

Library

A weekly Library lesson is taught for all Stage 2 classes by Mrs Cathy Shearer. We encourage all students to borrow regularly. Library bags are essential for borrowing rights.

	Library	Science
3/4M	Tuesday	Wednesday
3/4S	Wednesday	Friday
4/5S	Monday	Thursday
2/3R	Wednesday	Friday



Homework

It is recommended that children develop positive study habits by completing set homework Monday to Thursday. Homework is issued each Monday and should be returned each Friday.

As part of homework, we encourage the children to read for at least 20 minutes daily, either independently or to a family member.

Class Supplies

A note regarding supplies your child needs for the classroom is attached. If you haven't already done so, could you please send to school all the requirements your child needs. It is important your child's supplies are refreshed regularly. Please regularly check with your child to see if they require anything for the classroom. The use of independent supplies also fosters responsibility for their own belongings.

Hats: The school adopts a "No Hat – Play in the Shade Policy" – Please ensure your child has a clearly labelled school hat at school each day.

Birthday Cakes: We welcome small individual cakes or the like if your child wishes to share his/her birthday with the class. Individual chocolates or lollipops are always popular. The canteen does offer a birthday package treat that can be purchased to share across the class with individual servings. All treats will need to be individually prepackaged.

Water Bottles: We welcome bottles of water (room temperature) into the classroom.

Sip and Crunch: Children are asked to bring a small container of fresh fruit or vegetables (only) into the classroom to 'refuel' during our morning session. This is a 5 minute snack.

Absent notes: Please ensure that you give your child's teacher a note explaining your child's absence (sick/family holiday) **on the day they return to school**. Students taking more than 7 days leave need to notify Mrs Hunt, the Principal, in advance and complete an exemption from attendance form.

Late arrivals/Early pickups: Parents must accompany their child into school and sign a late note at the front office if your child is late to school. If you are collecting your child early, please make your way to front office to sign an early leavers note and then make your way to the classroom to collect your child. Children will not be permitted to leave the classroom to meet parents at the gate.

Communication with teachers: Teachers are often busy before and after school with meetings and lesson preparation. However, if you wish to discuss any matters prior, please contact your teacher either by phone/note to arrange a mutually convenient time.

REMIND App- All classes have this app. Please join up so you can be updated with the wonderful things your child is doing in class, as well as handy reminders about school events.

We are all looking forward to a productive and exciting year.

Kind Regards,

The Stage 2 Team

**Annette Sutton (Stage Assistant Principal), Chris Mensforth, Michelle Robins,
Andrew Smyth, Natalie Isbester, Peta Mumford and Brooke Johnson**



Stage 2 2021 Classroom Supplies

The following supplies need to be purchased and brought to school as soon as possible.

- 6 Lead pencils
- Eraser
- Pencil Sharpener
- 16G USB
- 30cm ruler
- Scissors (children's)
- 3 Blue biro pens (Yr 4 only)
- 3 Red biro pens (Yr 4 only)
- 2 Highlighters
- Coloured pencils
- Textas (optional)
- 2 Glue sticks
- Maximum 2 pencil cases
- Art Shirt (old t-shirt/shirt of mum or dad's is fine)
- We recommend for hygiene reasons that children bring in a generic brand of earphones/headphones in a plastic zip lock bag to be kept at school and used during computer time and lessons with ipads and computers. These will be kept in chairbags or tote trays.

All of the above items should be clearly labeled with your child's name and class.

Also:

- 1 tissue box
- 1 (new) pump style bottle of liquid soap

Regards,

The Stage 2 2021 Team

Annette Sutton (Stage Assistant Principal), Chris Mensforth, Michelle Robins,
Andrew Smyth, Natalie Isbester, Peta Mumford and Brooke Montgomery