



## **ROOM ELEVEN NEWSLETTER - TERM THREE**

Welcome back to all Room 11 pupils and families. I trust you had an exciting holiday and are ready for another exciting term. I was lucky enough to spend most of my time in Los Angeles and Las Vegas, enjoying the heat and stress testing roller coasters.

### **Inquiry**

Our inquiry topics are varied this term, with the main push being learning about and rehearsing for our school production Cinderella-Rockerfella. This will involve students being in full school items, a class item and some students even having main cast roles. Alongside our production learning we will also be investigating the Olympics and putting our I.T. skills to the fore as we work on entries for this year's Digiawards.

### **Maths**

We have begun Term 3 with mass and capacity, before we move on to geometry and then finish the term with statistical investigations. It is important that all students complete their assigned homework in the timeframe set by me. These tasks are designed to reinforce and provide additional practice of the skills and strategies we are learning in class.

### **Literacy**

Our literacy focus is on developing more sophisticated comprehension skills, able to confidently make inferences and predictions and ask deep questions of the text and the author's intent. In Writing we are examining Narrative this term through the medium of Fairy Tales. We will retell a famous fairy tale before creating a new twist on an old tale, by altering the complication or resolution. We are developing a love and enthusiasm for writing by starting each day with a quickwrite. This is a short 10 to 15 minute period during which all students write independently on creative topics provided by me. There is no expectation for students to plan or edit this writing and I will not assess it unless the student requests this. The intent of quickwrites is to develop an expressive writing habit and for students to view themselves as writers without the pressure of planning or assessment.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Spooner Shield is scheduled for Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, which is in Week 3 of this term. Children will need to wear appropriate sports gear on these days. This is one of the few sporting opportunities where selection is based on merit. The best players for the teams available have been chosen, resulting in some children not being selected at all. All students will be involved in a code during our P.E. programmes whether they have been selected for the competition or not. We are only able to enter one team for each code including two reserves per team. Those who don't compete will be catered for at school with an exciting programme for the day of the Spooner Shield Competition.

The Arthur Miller School Cross Country competition has been scheduled for Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August. We suggest if children are keen to make the inter-school team they need to start and continue training at home after school and in the weekends. The habit of "persistence" and "taking responsibility" for their own training will benefit their fitness and potential to do well. Training will take place for Year 3 - 6 students on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon at 1.30. Students will set their own goals for the Tuesday and Wednesday sessions. Rankings for the Friday training session

will be recorded together with the place gained in the School Cross Country and these combined results will determine selection for the Inter-School Cross Country. **Please understand that the Friday ranking system has to be the main tool for selecting the final 6 students in each age group. A single race such as the AMS school competition, while useful, can only be regarded as an opportunity for students to experience the tension of competition.**

**Optimist Yachting:** The year 6 pupils will get the opportunity to go Optimist Yachting from **31 October to - 3 November** from 9-12.30 each day, which is week 4 of Term 4. I am alerting you to this activity now to enable parents to organise time off work should they want to be involved sometime during that week. We rely heavily upon parents to transport and supervise from 9.00-12.30 each day. Your support in these matters is appreciated. A week of EOTC activities is organised for the Year 5's during this week while the Year 6's are sailing.

Classroom goals have been, and will continue to be centred on taking personal responsibility, respecting the rights and opinions of others and greeting others courteously. Dynamics within the classroom have continued to be positive while most children have developed mature work habits. Disciplined homework habits still need to be developed by a small core of children.

### Important Dates

- Movie Making GATE- 8, 9, 10th August
- Friday 12th August Spooner Shield competition
- Thursday 18th August Year 6 Transition visit to TIS
- Tuesday 30th Aug School Cross Country (postponement 31st)
- Tuesday 6th Sept Interschool Cross Country
- Wednesday 7th September Walking Wednesday
- Wednesday 7th September Girl Soccer session
- Production Thursday 22nd September
- ART GATE 14th & 15th September

I look forward to another term of working with you and your child and encourage you to come in to the classroom at any time to share learning journeys or just for a chat.

Regards

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