Welcome back to Term 2!
We hope you all had an enjoyable break and took the chance to recharge and enjoy the autumn weather over the holidays.

Term 2 will be a busy term that will include our Athletics day in week 2 as well as NAPLAN in week 5 of this term. We will also be kicking off our kitchen and garden program which will run each Wednesday at 12:20pm. Any parents wanted to help us at this time would be greatly appreciated. Please remember you must have a Working With Children Check.

Specialist timetable:
Grade 3A
- Tuesday PE
- Tuesday Art
- Thursday Japanese
- Thursday Science

Grade 3B
- Tuesday Art
- Tuesday PE
- Thursday Science
- Thursday Japanese

*Please make sure students wear appropriate shoes for PE and have an art smock for Art

Expectations:
We have been and will continue to discuss the values and expectations for our learning community to make it a happy and safe place, where everybody feels included and valued.

Here are some of the expectations we have decide are important for our community:

*Respect others
*Be honest
*Move safely around our school

*Listen to others
*Look after our environment
Parent Helpers Wanted

Throughout the year there will be opportunities for you to come into the classroom as a classroom helper or to come along on excursions. You must have a current Working with Children Card to do this.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE.

If you would like to help on a regular basis in the classroom please see Andrew and let him know the days and times you are available.

Important Reminders

Just a reminder that the children must bring their reading folder to school every day.

Fresh Fruit Friday

Every Friday the school provides the children with a variety of fresh fruit for their snack. This is just a snack so students will still need their own snack on this day to complement the fresh fruit available. This is to promote healthy eating habits.

Mathletics and Reading Eggs

As part of students book packs, they have been provided with a subscription of Mathletics and Reading Eggs. These are two programs which can be utilised at home to engage students in Maths and Reading in a fun and interactive way.

Tasks are set by teachers and targeted towards individual students needs to support what is being completed in class and build students confidence.

Students should be logging on weekly at home where they can.
**Homework!**

The Homework Matrix will handed out to students at the end of week 1 with **2 Homework tasks due every Thursday**. If for some reason your child cannot hand in their homework for a particular week please speak to their home group teacher. Your support with this is much appreciated.

As well as the matrix we expect students to be reading for at least 30 minutes each day.

**Birthdays**

We love to celebrate birthdays with the children! If your child is celebrating a birthday and you would like to bring in some treats you can either: bring something for all children or just bring something for your child’s home group. It is much easier to manage individual items like cupcakes or lollies rather than a large cake that needs to be cut and served.

*Please do not feel like you have to bring anything along!*

**Food Allergies**

We do have some children in our learning community who are allergic to nuts and eggs. For this reason please be mindful when you are preparing your child’s lunch.

**Let’s be on time**

Just a reminder that school begins at **8:50 am**.

It is very important that all children are at school **before 8.50 am** to begin the day with their peers.
What are we learning about in Term 2?

This term, the Grade 3 Learning Community will be completing their informative displays about Indigenous Australians, Captain Cook and the First Fleet.

Our inquiry focus will then shift to the design cycle, looking at inventors and inventions with a final challenge to see who can take out the first Newport Gardens PS Junior Shark Tank Challenge.

In **Reading** we are learning about:

- How we can use the text to support our comprehension and understanding of what we have read
- Making predictions while we read to support our understanding and using clues from the text to support these predictions
- Making connections with what we are reading including text to text, text to self and text to world connections

In **Writing** we are focusing on:

- The structure of Narrative and Persuasive texts and building our writing stamina to stay focused during writing sessions
- Instructional and procedural texts, identifying steps taken to make a product as well as text specific vocabulary.
- Weekly handwriting and writing convention lessons that will include a focus on homonyms (bear and bare), as well as contractions and spelling rules at the need of students.

In **Numeracy** we are focusing on:

- Addition and subtraction strategies including written and mental computation strategies
- Problem solving strategies to support students ability to select appropriate strategies to solve given problems
- Students ability to explain and show their working and strategies to solve a problem and being less reliant on just knowing the answer
- Data collection and displaying data in the form of bar and picture graphs