We would like to introduce our 3/4 team for 2014:

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The children are settling in well and are looking forward to a productive term.

This newsletter will provide you with a brief rundown of our programs and term overview. If you need more information or have any concerns please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher. We are happy to communicate electronically so please send us your email address. It is very important to keep the lines of communication open between home and school. We look forward to the opportunity of meeting you at the ‘Meet the teacher Evening’ Otherwise please introduce yourself to your child’s teacher, before or after school.

**Reminders**

**SunSmart Policy** – All children must wear the school uniform and bring along a hat to wear outdoors. Flemington Primary School has a compulsory school uniform policy. Please ensure that your child is dressed in the correct clothing.

**Library Books** - Please help maintain our resources and have a good search around the house for any lost library books.

**Nut products** - As we have students with life threatening allergies, we ask that all nut products including peanuts, peanut butter, Nutella, bars or biscuits with nuts in them and all tree nuts such as cashews, are not part of any child’s lunch at anytime

**Fruit Break**- Remember to pack for your children an extra serve of fresh fruit and vegetables daily; ‘Brain Food’ to eat during the day and as much as possible to pack a ‘rubbish free lunch’. Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle they can drink from during the day.

**Punctuality** – Just a reminder that the first school bell rings at 8.55am ready for the children to start class at 9am.

**Homework** - will begin in Week 3. Students will receive their weekly homework every Friday to be completed and returned on the following Friday

**Routine** - It is important for students to have a balance of indoor and outdoor time after school.
In the interest our students getting a good night sleep and being able to learn and develop well you are encouraged to turn off all screens an hour before bedtime (e.g. tv, ipads, etc.) Link to be attached.

**Computers** - It is important that parents supervise children while they are on computers.

**Working with Children’s Check**– you must have this if you wish to help out with any activities within the school, ie classroom, excursions, incursions.

**Diary Dates:**

Check *In Touch* for further events,

**Meet the teacher evening**
Tuesday 18th or Wednesday 19th February - 
(3/4M Tuesday 18th or Thursday 20th February )

**Swimming Carnival**
Friday 28th February

‘The Huddle’ -
3/4D Thursday 20th February
3/4J Thursday 6th March
3/4L Thursday 13th March
3/4M Thursday 20th March
3/4P Thursday 27th March

**Yoga** - Every Wednesday
beginning 12th February—19th March

**Footy Clinics** - Every Thursday
beginning 13th February—20th March

**Cross Country Carnival**
Friday 21st March

**Labour Day Holiday**
10th March

**Fete**
Saturday 22nd March

**House Sports**
Thursday 3rd April

**Classroom Helpers Training**
Tuesday 25th February 9.00-10.30

**Curriculum Day (Term 2)**
22nd April no children to attend
Literacy

**Reading** - During reading, students participate in small group Guided Reading and Reciprocal Teaching sessions with the classroom teacher. Students are also involved in a range of reading activities such as comprehension tasks, word analysis, research activities, shared reading, book reviews and the Internet. This encourages students to develop as independent learners.

**Writing** - During writing sessions, teachers model different elements of the writing process, depending on the focus of the session and the needs of the students. Through shared and guided writing, students experiment with strategies for planning, reviewing and proof reading their own writing. The focus this term will be on **narrative and procedural text**. Students continue to consolidate their Modern Cursive script in handwriting sessions.

**Language Conventions** - Students will routinely participate in spelling and grammar investigations each week to assist the development of spelling strategies. Your child will receive weekly spelling to practice at home.

Numeracy

Maths is timetabled daily. The units of work vary according to the needs of the students and the focus of the session. This allows teachers to focus on students’ specific needs. Students are involved in whole class and small group activities. In Year 3 /4, our aim is to further develop students’ understandings of the number system leading to the ability to perform accurately the basic mathematical operations, to calculate, estimate, measure and to use these skills in everyday problem solving situations. Relevant computer activities and number games are part of the Maths program.

Please encourage your child to practice their automatic response of tables and basic facts at home. Quick quizzes against the clock and number facts grids are worthwhile activities.

Daily Mathletics is part of the homework program

**Term 1 topics are:**

**Graphs & Data**

**Place Value** - Numbers to 9 999 place value

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

We will continue to incorporate Information & Communication Technology for various aspects of their learning including keeping track of students' learning goals, collaboration between students and teachers using wikis and blogs, access some learning tasks, and eventually submitting some work. Don’t forget that if children are unable to access the internet from home they can do so at school.

Inquiry

**The Inquiry topic for Year 3 /4 this term is titled, ‘Being the Best We Can’. We ask the essential question: ‘How can you be the best you can be?’**

Students will participate in a variety of independent and group activities throughout the unit including group discussion, role-plays, problem solving tasks and research projects on what makes people successful and what are the common traits.

As part of this Inquiry unit each grade will visit ‘The Huddle’ at Arden St. North Melbourne to participate in a character strengths program. A note will be coming home soon. (We would appreciate your assistance if you are able to volunteer your time to accompany the class for this excursion - Please see your child’s teacher) See dates in diary.

Physical Education

**During Physical Education sessions, students will be working with Brendan Newman. The Swimming Carnival will occur on the 1st March this year for grades 3-6. There will be trials held for all events on Friday morning 15th February at 7:30 am. at the Travancore Pool.**

During Physical Education sessions, students will be working with Brendan Newman in specialised Physical Education sessions. We will also be involved in **4 Football clinic incursions (at FPS) with the North Melbourne Football Club from The Huddle. Every Wednesday morning from the 29th February to the 21st March**

Homework


We expect:

**Independent reading** - 30 minutes daily. This can include:- Reading Eggs, magazines, fiction/nonfiction texts, newspapers,

**Spelling words** - Oxford spelling words or Spelling Investigations

**Mathletics** - all students complete all teacher assigned tasks. Extra tasks are optional.

   nightly practice of automatic response of tables and basic facts