Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back and we hope you were able to have a wonderful break and enjoy some of the beautiful weather we had over Easter.

We have a few exciting things to look forward to this Term – Yr 3 Camp, Production Rehearsals and of course NAPLAN!!! Again we will be busy in Level 3 at Croydon Hills

We welcome back Mrs K next week who has been travelling in New Zealand for 3 ½ weeks and thank Mrs Mary Pharoah who has been looking after Md-K

Term 1 saw all classes getting to each know each other and adjusting to life as either a Year 3 student or a Year 4 student as well as the teachers!

We are sure you have noticed we haven't sent out a Term Levy for Term 2! We aren't having any incursion or excursion. We appreciate that with Camps, Production and a trip to Healesville Sanctuary on Oct 15 it will be expensive enough for you this year.

Each class now has 8 ipads to explore and discover and students are learning very quickly how use them which is very exciting.

We are continually finding lunch boxes, hats and jumpers that aren't labelled and end up not being claimed which must cause considerable frustration. Please make sure all items at school are labelled and continue to encourage your child to look after their belongings!!!

CURRICULUM – LEVEL 3

In Years 3 and 4 students continue to build on the knowledge and skills developed in earlier years. They develop a deeper understanding of the relationships between school, home and the community. They are becoming more capable of concentrating on tasks for longer periods of time. Students are encouraged to be confident in discussing ideas, expressing opinions and listening to others at home and in the classroom. They understand that they need to work with others and be part of their class and school.

YEAR 3 CAMP UPDATE

The major event coming up this term is a very exciting one - the Year 3 camp! It will be held in the fourth week of term, from Wednesday the 8th of May to Friday the 10th of May. The kids will get to participate in a wide range of extremely fun and challenging activities, as well as enjoy sensational food and see peers and teachers in a whole new light!

Notices have been going home; please take the time to read them and return where necessary after completing them correctly!! When packing please don’t do it without your child. They need to know what is in their bag and please label everything!!! We are looking forward to a wonderful camp!

PRODUCTION is on in 118 DAYS!!!!

Auditions are taking place next Tuesday, actors will be cast and scripts will be handed out on May 7. Rehearsals will begin on Friday 31 May. Students have their script for Rehearsal and can access the song and lyrics on our wiki. It promises to be an exciting time.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Information Evening and have offered to assist. We are all looking forward to it. Ros Lawrence will coordinate our Production with Mrs Lane and Mrs Browning.

The Level 3 Production team requires a volunteer who has a removal truck to help transport the sets and props from Croydon Hills Primary School to the Karralyka Theatre. Please contact the school if you are able to help.

CYBER SAFETY PRESENTATION

During Education Week we are having an Open Night on Tuesday 21st of May where parents will have the opportunity to hear from Tom Mason about Cyber Safety. This is a wonderful opportunity as he will be presenting to our students the following day. It will be extremely beneficial to all.
FROM THE SPECIALISTS

Music – Mrs Lane

Classroom music: Students will continue to create music using their voices, ukeleles, xylophones, untuned percussion, boomwhackers and the other many and varied classroom instruments. They will dance, play games, listen to and discuss various styles of music and continue to learn to read notation. Where possible, we will use music technology to compose music and consolidate theory and aural training. This term we will be focussing on “Music and Theatre” in preparation for our production in third term. Students will be coached on how to prepare for an audition and we will learn all of the songs for the school musical during music classes.

Choir: Rehearsals take place every Monday lunchtime and Thursdays before school (8 a.m.) Our next big gig will be on Mothers Day (12th May) at M.L.C. - Methodist Ladies College at 11 a.m. Letters have been distributed outlining all the necessary details. This is a competition and we will be performing two songs on the day. It is imperative that all choir members attend every rehearsal and performance throughout the year to maintain that great quality and team effort that the choir is currently enjoying.

Ukelele Band: This group rehearses in the P.A.C. every Thursday lunchtime and is open to all students from Years 3 - 6. It provides children with an opportunity to play in an ensemble without necessarily learning an instrument formally. New members are always welcome. We are currently practising “The Lion Sleeps Tonight” to perform at our next Indoor Assembly on the 29th of April.

Instrumental Lessons: Please speak to me (Mrs Lane) if you are interested in your child learning an instrument. I have details of very good teachers that I can put you in touch with if you are interested. Our instrumental program is growing and we currently have students learning drums, guitar, piano/keyboard, violin, singing, saxophone and flute.

Rock Band: This group rehearses each Wednesday lunchtime and is really sounding great. At the moment we are working on “Seven Nation Army" - White Stripes. The Rock Band has grown this year and we now have 2 keyboard players, 3 vocalists, 2 drummers, and 2 guitarists in the group.

Visual Arts – Miss Michielin

This term students will integrate their classroom inquiry of Flight into their art works. Students will develop fine motor skills through the textile method of weaving to develop a hot-air balloon fabric collage. Using designs techniques as well as developing their own individual creative style, students will create a kite. Art Academy will continue to provide students with opportunities to further develop skills, techniques as well as their imagination and creativity.

Physical Education- Mrs McMenaman

Term 2 will start with the House Cross Country competition on Thursday 2nd May. We need many parents to assist with supervision of corners and the finishing line etc. A notice will be going home shortly with information.

During Term 2, the focus will be on continuing the Striking activities with our Rounders and TeeBall skills from Term 1 being transferred to Softball and learning how to use a glove. We will also be doing Football and Soccer, with focus on the rules and game techniques.

INTEGRATED CURRICULUM IS TAKING OFF!!

An Integrated Curriculum allows students to extend and apply knowledge, skills and values they have developed about the world around them. In Level 3 we operate on a two-year cycle. This term we will be exploring the topic – Flight based on the inquiry theory of learning that acknowledging the role of the student in setting directions and actively participating in shared investigations.

PARTNERSHIPS

Good partnerships between students, teachers, and parents are vital to success and the key to working successfully together is effective and respectful communication between all parties. If there is a concern, please let us know so that we can address the issue (academic or social) as soon as possible. You may choose to write a note, email or phone for an appointment. Please be aware that due to meeting commitments, we are not always available without notice. A message to arrange an appointment is necessary to avoid disappointment.

NAPLAN for YEAR 3 will be on May 14,15 and 16

In Year 3 students participate in the national NAPLAN tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. These national tests provide information on how students are progressing, support improvements in teaching and learning, and provide a framework to compare student performance around Australia. Don’t stress! This is only one indicator of your child’s progress. Your child’s class work over the course of the year gives a more complete picture of achievement.

MIDDLE SCHOOL WIKI

Please ensure you know what is happening by reading the Croydon Hill’s weekly newsletter and/or by visiting our wiki. This can be accessed through our school website www.croydonhps.vic.edu.au via the Newsletter link.