



WAGIN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

TERM 1, 2020 OUTLINE

Year 3/4 - Room 14

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4 in our shared class. We're delighted to have your wonderful children under our care and tuition for 2020. Ordinarily Bridgit will work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and Rachel will work on Wednesdays. We have worked successfully in tandem for several years now, planning and assessing collaboratively and ensuring we communicate regularly during the week. Additionally, when one of us is unavailable the other will usually take the class. These strategies ensure a high level of consistency in class and best support student behaviour and learning.

Term 1 is always busy with setting new routines, assessment, swimming lessons, a swimming carnival and Woolorama, along with key learning areas and specialist subjects all full of new content. For a fun warm up to the day children will be greeted with an optical illusion or rebus (word) puzzle on the board each morning for them to consider and critically reflect on, some will be easier than others but all will be discussed together. There will also be a 'Words Between' challenge to stimulate thinking about dictionary order and vocabulary. Both are intended to be fun and engaging with no requirement to be right or first. Our theme for this term is 'Jungle' and students will work independently and collaboratively to create posters and write stories based on their research.

Although inevitably subject to some alterations as we go along, our term outline is as follows.

CLASS STRUCTURE

Literacy Blocks:

During Literacy Blocks this term we will be targeting content from the Western Australian Curriculum focusing on Writing, Spelling, Reading and Punctuation and Grammar. As a Primary team we will be using the Sound Waves resources to support spelling and phonemic awareness. At times we will have the support of Sue Hall and Jill Pilkington, and once we are settled in to routine we will be keen to have parent help with reading before school so keep an eye out for that request.

Writing focus:

Writing is a daily activity that takes place in our classroom, often using the strategies from Seven Steps for Writing Success. Students are given lots of opportunities to practise writing across a variety of genres and develop a sound knowledge of text structures. The following is an outline of the types of writing activities we will be covering in class this term.

Week 1	Recount writing, goal setting, baseline testing – narrative writing sample
Week 2 & 3	Book share focus – before/during/after questions, character traits, written retell, narrative writing, illustrations and text, letter writing
Week 4-6	Book share focus – before/during/after questions, narrative text structure – problems and solutions, figurative language, comparing texts, informational report writing plan, informational report writing, narrative text structure – critical triangle of problem, emotions and plan
Week 7-8	Persuasive writing focus, building an argument, text structure, persuasive language – words with impact, persuasive devices, building an opinion, building persuasive paragraphs

Week 9	Persuasive and narrative writing – using Seven Steps, tightening tension
Week 10	Narrative writing – using Seven Steps, tightening tension, dynamic dialogue, sizzling starts

Spelling / Punctuation and Grammar focus:

As mentioned earlier in this document, we are using Sound Waves resources across primary classes this year. Students will be supported or extended within this program as needed to ensure they are doing work to the best of their ability.

Week 1	Baseline testing
Week 2	Getting started – setting up Sound Waves routines
Week 3	Graphemes: b bb Blends: bl, br Focus Concepts: Adding ed, alphabetical order, past tense Antonyms (opposites), and prefixes (word beginnings)
Week 4	Grapheme: a Patterns: amp, ang, ank, atch Focus Concepts: Adding ed, adding s or es, rhyming Synonyms (words with similar meanings)
Week 5	Graphemes: k c q ck x(ks) ch Blends: ch, cl, cr, sch, qu, chr, squ Extra grapheme: walk Focus Concepts: Adding ed, adding s or es, adding ing, past tense, rhyming Adult and baby animal names/Families Prefix: ex
Week 6	Graphemes: e ea Patterns: ell, end, eck, ead Extra graphemes: said, any Focus Concepts: Rhyming, past tense Compound words and synonyms
Week 7	Graphemes: d dd Blends: dr, nd Focus Concepts: Adding ing, adding s or es, rhyming Compound words, antonyms and verb tense (past and present)
Week 8	Grapheme: i Patterns: ish, ink, ich, itch, ing, ill, ick, ift Extra graphemes: pretty, busy, build Focus Concepts: Adding ing, adding s or es, rhyming Synonyms and prefixes
Week 9	Graphemes: f ff ph Blends: fl, fr, ft Extra grapheme: enough Focus Concepts: Adding ed, adding ing, adding s, es, ed and ing to words ending in y Suffixes, prefixes and antonyms
Week 10	Graphemes: o a Patterns: oss, ock, ong, ost Extra grapheme: want Focus Concepts: Adding ing, ed, s or es, alphabetical order, rhyming and compound words

Reading focus:

We aim to complete guided reading activities four times a week, including reading comprehension strategies using the CARS and STARS reading program and completing book study activities including predicting, posing questions before/during/after reading the text and targeted lessons.

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement testing – CARS / STARS program • Comprehension activities
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-test CARS baseline tests • Comprehension activities

Week 3-5	STARS Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding main idea – lesson 1-5 	Guided reading focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarising Making inferences – fiction
Week 6-8	STARS Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recalling facts and details – lesson 1 -5 Understanding sequence – lesson 1 	Guided reading focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making inferences and predicting – fiction and non fiction
Week 9-10	STARS Program Understanding sequence – lesson 2 -5	Guided reading focus Illustrations – picture clues

Numeracy Blocks:

In our Numeracy Blocks this term we will focus on content from the Western Australian Curriculum strands Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability. We will use explicit teaching, hands-on practice, Targeting Maths and Mathletics resources, including using iPads and computers to practise taught skills. We will also complete Mental Maths activities to practise skills and will be working hard on learning times tables to support quick processing and problem solving.

Week 1	Numbers – revision – focusing on place value
Week 2	Addition
Week 3	Subtraction
Week 4	Measurement – length
Week 5	Fractions and decimals
Week 6	Tables 1-6, odds and evens
Week 7	Patterns and algebra
Week 8	Measurement – time
Week 9	3D shapes
Week 10	Revision

HASS:

This term in HASS our focus will be History. We will explore the unit about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders focusing on the relationship between language, country and spirituality for the indigenous cultures of Australia covering topics such Dreamtime stories, distribution of Indigenous cultures, noongar seasons and adaptations to environment, comparing indigenous groups and considering the impact of colonisation.

Science:

Mr Sam Morgan will work with the Primary students in Science, teaching the Science Inquiry skills strand, we will teach the content unit for Biological Science in class. This is a specialist learning area for Rachel

The focus this term is on life cycles and needs of living things, their relationship with the environment and how they can be grouped by features. Topics that will be covered over the term include living and non-living things, characteristics of living things, life cycles, food chains and environmental effects of actions and choices.

This is an area that fits well with our jungle learning and students will make posters and dioramas related to their learning in class and their own research.

Health:

Students will follow the SDERA Challenges and Choices program which is from the Western Australian Curriculum. Students will gain knowledge and understanding in healthy lifestyles including food choices and physical activity, road safety and health messages in the media. This term we will be focusing resilience and well-being through recognising and accepting differences, changing unhelpful thoughts to helpful thoughts, managing uncomfortable feelings, being resilient to bullying, practising seeking help and getting along with others.

Digital Technologies:

Digital Technologies will be taught by Ms Pieterse on Thursdays.

The Arts:

Visual Arts will continue to be taught by Ms van Leeuwen on Fridays.

Physical Education:

Physical Education will be taught by Ms Kellow on Wednesdays. We will join in upper primary sport on Friday afternoons once swimming lessons and the carnival are finished. Students should always wear suitable closed in shoes on Wednesdays and Fridays. Leah will focus on sport skills and our Friday focus will be summer team games.

Indonesian:

Western Australian students from Year 3 upwards will be learning an additional language and at Wagin we are learning Indonesian. This term, students will be learning alongside Bridgit and Rachel using Unit 2 of the KETAWA program. We anticipate this will be challenging to teach and family with any background in Indonesian will be welcome to join with us.

Library:

We place high value on library skills, as well as reading for pleasure. With Mrs Mangalavite we will be engaging in mini lessons on how to find information and books of our choice each week, before listening to a short story and then selecting books to borrow for home. Students are able to borrow up to four books at a time and are strongly encouraged to get books that link with the Lit Pro program and at least one book for pleasure. At this stage our library day is Tuesday, however the library is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes if students wish to use it.

Homework Requirements:

Homework will be set and students will be supported to complete it. We will have home reading of any texts, spelling practice and math practise on Mathletics, if you have the technology available for this. Students will be able to complete Lit Pro and Mathletics at school or at home.

Teacher Contact Details:

We are happy to meet with you to discuss your child's learning or other needs throughout the term.

Contact options:

Your child's diary - please remind your child know to show us your note.

School office - 9861 3200 for a call back or through the Seesaw app

Via email - Bridgit.Gannaway@education.wa.edu.au or Rachel.Pederick@education.wa.edu.au

We are looking forward to a productive and positive term of learning.

Bridgit Gannaway and Rachel Pederick