



MANLY WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

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YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER Term 1

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

13th February 2024

Welcome to students and families of Year 4, 2024. Students have settled in their classrooms and teachers have been establishing expectations for the year, conducting formal and informal assessments and commencing Term One programs. Our aim in Year 4 is to provide a collaborative environment where students can reach their full potential.

We are pleased to introduce the Year 4 team of teachers this year with many supporting teachers, to ensure your child/ren achieve success. There are three Year 4 classes and a composite 3/4 class this year. We look forward to meeting you and explaining teaching and learning programs and classroom routines and organisation during our upcoming Parent Information Evening.

Manly West PS Vision

Our Manly West Vision states that all students reach their full potential to succeed academically and thrive as healthy, active, critical and creative thinkers and local and global life-long learners who connect and contribute to their school community and society.

Assessment Capable Students

As a K-6 school, we are focusing on students participating actively in their own learning using a Visible Learning Approach. Teachers use Learning Intentions and Success Criteria to make it clear to students what is the expected learning to be achieved in lessons for all abilities. We are building student capacity so that students know what they are learning, why and how they can improve and move to the next level in learning. If students know this, they can assess their own learning with teacher feedback and reach their full potential in each lesson.

New English and Mathematics Curriculum

In 2024, English and Mathematics syllabus documents are being implemented in Year 3-6. K-2 English and Mathematics Syllabus documents were implemented in 2023 and are now being embedded in 2024.

Teachers will continue to engage in professional learning to build their capacity to deliver the pedagogy embedded in these documents to achieve set outcomes. All teachers K-6 will be involved in sessions off class for planning and programming. More information on the new syllabus documents can be found at

<https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/>

Programming

Most of our Programs are planned and taught as Stage based programs. The outcomes for Stage 2 (Year 3 and Year 4) are taught over a two year cycle. The teachers work collaboratively to design these programs to ensure that each child can reach their full potential. All programs are differentiated to suit the needs of every student.

Routines

Every morning, Year 4 will line up under the COLA outside the Hall. Please could students place their bags in their lines outside the hall. They are not to enter their classrooms until school starts. If your child is unable to attend the school please could you send an email or letter to the office or class teacher.

Term 1 Diary Dates

Feb 1st – School starts for Yrs 1-6

Jan 31st-Feb 6th – Best Start Assessments for Kindergarten students

Feb 6th – 9:45-12pm Transition Morning for Kindergarten students

Feb 6th – 9:45-10:30am Tea and Tissues for 2024 Kindy parents

Feb 7th – Kindergarten first day 9:45am-3:10pm

Feb 8th – Kindergarten students start 9:20am – 3:20pm

Feb 8th – Kindy Parent Information Evening 5:30pm – Start in hall

Feb 9th – Training Band instrument distribution 9:30am

Feb 12th – MWPS Swimming Carnival Years 3-6

Feb 12th – Band Tutorials start

Feb 13th – Mackellar Girls and Balgowlah Boys Open Days 9:15-12:30pm

Feb 13th – Stage 1 Parent Information Evening 6pm

Feb 13th – Year 5 and Year 6 Parent Information Evening. 5pm in the hall for talk with Balgowlah Boys and Mackellar Girls HS Principals. 5:30pm in classrooms.

Feb 14th - Applications for year 7 2025 Academic Placement Test for Mackellar Girls High close

Feb 15th – Stage 2 Parent Information Evening - Year 3 and 3/4V at 5pm, Year 4 at 5:30pm

Mathematics

During Numeracy lessons, students will be participating in differentiated activities which develop their skills and knowledge in the focus areas of Place Value, Representing Number, Data, Geometric Measure (position) and Chance. Our teachers have worked collaboratively to program a variety of activities based on the new NSW Mathematics syllabus, with Working Mathematically outcomes embedded throughout focus areas. Teachers will be guiding students to think critically and creatively and scaffold their ability to explain their thinking and how they achieved an answer.

English

During Literacy lessons based on the new English syllabus, students will develop foundational skills and knowledge in Component A focus areas; Reading Fluency, Reading Comprehension, Spelling, Vocabulary, Creating Written Texts and Handwriting and Digital Transcription. Further, through the study of quality texts, including 'Fantastic Mr Fox' by Roald Dahl, students will develop conceptual understandings of English through Component B focus areas; Oral Language and Communication, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary, Creating Written Texts and Understanding and Responding to Literature.

Geography

This semester, we will be exploring the topic, The Earth's Environment. Students explore the climate, natural vegetation and native animals of places in Australia and Asia. They examine the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources to the environment, animals and people and learn about the ways people value environments, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Students identify sustainable practices and recognise that there are differing views on how sustainability can be achieved. Geographical inquiry skills such as data collection and mapping will also be developed.

Science and Technology

In Science, students will be studying the topic Smooth Moves which is a Physical Science unit where they will investigate various forces. Each class will also have a weekly session in Cyber City to develop their computer skills where there will be a particular focus on graphs and data and typing skills.

Creative Arts

This semester, students will have lessons with Ms MacOurt every week where they continue to develop their skills in Music. Drama will be incorporated into these lessons too during Term Two. In Music, students are using movement and a variety of percussion instruments to explore core musical concepts, with a focus on rhythm and pitch. They will develop compositions of their own and use musical language to discuss their work and the works of others.

Our Visual Arts unit will incorporate various Key Learning Areas and focus on appreciating and making art. Dance will be taught by Mrs Amber Kriletich this semester. Please could students wear their sport uniforms on the following days:

Monday - 4B, 4C, 3/4V

Wednesday – 4A

PDHPE

During the first initial days of school, your child participated in our Healthy Lifestyles rotations, where topics of PBEL, Road Safety, Sun Safety, Water Safety, Cyber-Safety and Resilience were explored as part of the PDHPE Stage 2 program. Students will also participate in the Life Education 'Friends and Feelings' program and a sequence of classroom lessons based on growth mindset.

This term, sport will be taught as part of a Stage 2 Fundamental Movement Skills program. Please ensure your child wears their sport uniform on **Tuesdays**. Students will also be participating in school sport or PSSA on Fridays so please ensure your child also wears sports uniform on a **Friday**.

Term 1 Diary Dates

Continued from previous page

Feb 19th– Mar 8th - Life Education commences

Feb 19th - Introduction to the canteen for Kindy KO, KY, KB

Feb 20th - Promotional and Individual Kindy photos

Feb 21st - Introduction to the canteen for Kindy KG, KR

Feb 26th - Applications for year 7 2025 Academic Placement Test for Balgowlah Boys High close

Feb 27th – NBLA Yr 6 Leadership Day for School Prefect team

Feb 28th – Years 5&6 Cyber Safety

Mar 1st-22nd – Summer PSSA Round 1-4

Mar 5th – Year 3 and 3V Kimbriki excursion

Mar 6th – Year 3 and 3V Kimbriki excursion

Mar 7th – Scripture starts

Mar 8th – Kindy Cocktails

Mar 13-24th – NAPLAN commences for Years 3 and 5

Mar 13th – PSSA Zone Swimming

Mar 13th – Stage 1 Excursion to Field of Mars

Mar 14th – MBSC Academic Test for 2025 Enrichment classes at Mackellar Girls and Balgowlah Boys HS

Mar 20th – Stage 1 Excursion to Field of Mars

Mar 25th-Apr 5th – Parent Teacher Interviews Commence

Mar 28th – Easter Scripture Combined Assembly

Mar 29th – Good Friday public holiday

Apr 1st – Easter Monday public holiday

Apr 2nd – Metropolitan North Regional Swimming

Library

In Library this term, students will participate in shared reading of high-quality texts to develop and nurture their love of reading and learning through literature. They will utilise skills and technology, including ORBIT, to locate and select titles and have the opportunity to borrow each week. Students will also be encouraged to borrow books from the Premier's Reading Challenge lists and can begin to enter them online from March. Please **bring your library bags** on the following days:

Tuesday - 4A

Wednesday - 4B, 4C, 3/4V

Homework

Homework will begin in Week 5. Homework will consist of weekly Maths Mentals which are to be completed in their Maths Mentals Textbook. This needs to be handed in every Monday. Students will also have online activities which consist of Matific and Typing Tournament. It is really important that your child reads every night for a minimum of 30 minutes. We also encourage all students to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge this year. There will be projects set on Google Classroom throughout the year.

Chickens

Year 4 students will be nominating whether they would like to take on the role of Chicken Wrangler this year. They will get training on how to care for our chickens. We require families to help care for the chickens on weekends. If your family would be interested, please could you email the office. We would appreciate your time and help.

Class Timetables

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
4A		Library (library bag) Stage 2 PE Program (Sports Uniform)	Dance (Sports Uniform) Music/Drama	School Sport/PSSA (Sports Uniform)
4B	Dance (Sports Uniform)	Stage 2 PE Program (Sports Uniform) Music/Drama	Library (library bag)	School Sport/PSSA (Sports Uniform)
4C	Dance (Sports Uniform)	Stage 2 PE Program (Sports Uniform) Music/Drama	Library (library bag)	School Sport/PSSA (Sports Uniform)
3/4V	Dance (Sports Uniform)	Stage 2 PE Program (Sports Uniform) Music/Drama	Library (library bag)	School Sport/PSSA (Sports Uniform)

More detailed information outlining curriculum content and relevant information for Year 4 will be available at our Parent Information Evening. This will be on **Thursday 15th February at 5.00pm for 3/4V and 5.30pm for all other Year 4 classes.**

We look forward to a positive and productive year ahead.

Year 4 Teachers,

Annika Vasara-Blunden & Natalie Sengchanh (4A), Steve Byrne & Lara Richards (4B), Bonnie Cleary (4C) and Vanessa Brown (3/4V),

Term 1 Diary Dates

Apr 3rd – Class and Individual photos for Years 1-6

Apr 4th – Group photos and Year 6 photos

Apr 29th – Term 2 begins for staff
- Staff Development Day

Apr 30th – Term 2 resumes for all students