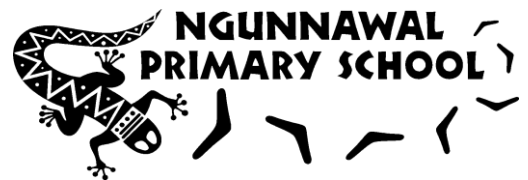




Year 4 Overview Newsletter Term 4 2019



REMINDER

NPS is an **allergy** friendly school. Please do not bring products that contain **nuts or eggs** to school.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 4. It was lovely seeing families share in students' achievements at our Learning Journeys at the end of term 3 and participate in Children's Week afternoon with grand friends last week. Our students loved having the opportunity to showcase their work as well as their skills.

Some of our units of work will continue into this term with new units starting in Mathematics and English. Our Inquiry unit will focus on Geography and Science. We also have a couple of exciting events happening this term including our travel expo on the 1st of November and Big Gig in week 8. Keep an eye out for notes coming home about Big Gig over the next few weeks.

Please ensure that your child has a hat for outside activities such as recess, lunch, P.E and Environmental Science. It is ACT policy that broad-brimmed hats that cover the face, ears and neck are to be worn between August and May.

As always, please see your child's teacher if you have any questions. Have a wonderful last term.

Kind regards,

Lucy, Simone, Xian and Vernetta (Team leader)

Inquiry Learning

Students will continue to learn about Australia and its neighbours through our Geography Inquiry. We will be exploring the diversity, climate, settlement and demographics of these countries, comparing the similarities and differences between Australia and their chosen country. Students will also look at the important man-made and natural features. They will then use this knowledge to try and persuade others to visit their country at the travel expo on the 1st of November.

Students will reflect on their experience conducting the expo by presenting a speech with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation. They will focus on speaking skills such as using voice, hand gestures and eye contact to engage their audience. Year 4 students will practise their ICT skills by creating a slide show. They will learn how to change backgrounds, fonts, using images and creating graphs on the Chromebooks.

In Technology, students will experiment with coding using Spheros and Ozobots. They will be asked to complete challenging tasks such as coding the devices to move through an obstacle course and transporting materials from one place to another. Students will complete an online safety unit. They will work towards being good digital citizens by discussing online bullying, using sensitive information, citing sources and using search engines. At the end of the unit students will create a superhero to spread a message of online safety!

This term in Science students will continue to develop their understanding of soils, rocks and landscapes and how they change over time through hands-on activities and student-planned investigations. The unit will provide opportunities for students to explore how natural processes and human activity shape their surroundings. Students will also investigate factors that affect the erosion of soils. Students will pose questions, hypothesise predictions and gather data to then analyse and share with the rest of the class.

In writing, students will spend the first half of the term consolidating their writing skills on information and persuasive text types. They will do this through the creation of brochures and information sheets for the travel expo. In the second half of the term the year 4 classes will focus on writing to instruct. Students will give directions to a variety of activities ensuring to add accurate and detailed information. Students will focus on writing directions to conduct science experiments.

In the second half of the term, students will explore materials. They will describe a range of common materials, such as metals or plastics, and their uses. Students will also discuss the sustainability of these materials and conduct experiments using them.

We have continued to see improved growth in students' spelling development and its close link to writing. Each week students will learn about spelling through a strategy-based approach, focusing specifically on the sound, visual, meaning and connecting strategies. During writing tasks, students will be reminded to access these strategies to help when spelling unknown words.

In reading tasks, students will consolidate the comprehension skills learned throughout the year. Students will also complete activities such as partnered reading and readers theatre to build fluency using expression to entertain their audience. They will discuss their preferences for different types of texts, discuss text with classmates and listen to others' viewpoints.

Students will be placed in differentiated groups for number with a focus on decimals and financial maths. Students will discuss ways which tenths and hundredths can be represented. We will also explore financial transactions with a focus on calculating and checking change when purchasing goods. Students will perform skits to demonstrate their understanding of these skills at the 'Ngunnawal Café'. We encourage students to take opportunities outside of the classroom to practise and explore financial maths in everyday situations. This includes asking them to add up items on the grocery list and calculating change when out shopping with the family.

In Mathematics, students will also be investigating chance. They will determine the chance of everyday events occurring using the language, uncertain, unlikely, even chance, likely and certain. Students will explore how everyday events impact the probability of another's occurrence. For instance, if it is raining it cannot be dry outside. Classes will also discuss events where the chance of one will not be affected by the occurrence of the other. For instance, where the probability of a new baby being either a boy or a girl does not depend on the gender of the previous baby.

Students will be investigating the collection of data and constructing graphs from given data. Students will use both non-digital and digital methods to construct graphs. They will explore tables, column graphs and picture graphs to display their information. Students will then evaluate and reflect upon their data outcomes. They will apply their skills in critical analysis to infer reasons as to particular outcomes and ways in which the data can be applied.

Students will participate in daily Physical Education lessons. They will focus on Fundamental Movement Skills including, throwing and catching, striking and running. Students will also be encouraged to build on teamwork and demonstrate positive sportsmanship. This term students will also create movement sequences through dance. Students will learn dance movements to create and perform a showcase for Big Gig.

Classes will continue to learn about Positive Behaviours for Learning. Every Tuesday students will be explicitly taught the specific expectations around being safe, responsible and respectful in different areas of the school. Students are continuing to work towards the individual collection of Yungi Bengals. Each Yungi Bengal is representative of either a *safe*, *respectful* or *responsible learner* value. When students have collected a certain quantity of Yungi Bengals in a particular value they will be awarded a certificate to acknowledge their PBL understanding.

Specialist subjects

Music

Year 4 students experience music through listening, composing and performing. Students build on and refine their knowledge, understanding and skills through music practices focusing on the elements of music such as beat, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, form and timbre. Students in Year 4 will develop musicianship skills through playing the ukulele. Students will learn to pluck notes, strum chords and create their own compositions. In term 4 students will focus on developing performance skills to demonstrate their learning.

Physical Education

Students in Year 4 will begin the term by completing the Fitness Program. As students did in Term 1, a number of exercises will be completed, and a record will be kept of the number of repetitions achieved. The fitness Program consists of a range of exercises that include the beep test, planking, sit ups, mountain climbers and skipping. The fitness program will run for 5 weeks and at the end students will spend time analysing their results to see what they have achieved. The aim of the program is for students to make little gains each week, which will result in a big gain at the end.

After completing the fitness program, students will learn about a traditional Indigenous game called Buroinjin. Buroinjin is a game that originated from the Kabi Kabi people of South Queensland. It was originally played with a ball made of kangaroo skin but is now played with a ball that is a little smaller than a soccer ball. It's a fast-paced game that involves using some of the Fundamental Movement Skills such as throwing, catching and running. Students will also develop their skills in team work and sportsmanship.

Environmental Science

This term students will learn about the Ngunnawal people and focus on these concepts.

- Wetlands are part of a large catchment system in the ACT.
- Wetlands are complex systems involving biological, chemical and physical interactions.
- Everyone can be a wetlands steward, as an individual, or in partnership with others.
- Wetlands have environmental, social and economic values.
- Constructed urban wetlands are an important part of managing our water resources in a changing drying climate.

The Environment Centre will be reviewing our recycling and will continue to grow various plants and vegetables.

Japanese

Students will continue building their Japanese vocabulary through a range of activities and games. They will consolidate their jikoshoukai or self-introductions, how these would be used in Japan and some practical shopping roleplays. Student's will also extend their ability to identify and write 48 Hiragana characters and their pronunciations and begin to use katakana for their name. Students will enhance their language learning by investigating Japanese culture, events and traditions.

4 SB Class routine

Monday – Music and P.E

Thursday – Library

Friday – Japanese

4 XB Class routine

Monday – Library, Japanese, Music

Friday – Environment

4LK Class routine

Monday – Library, Environmental Science and Japanese

Friday – Physical Education with Sean