Welcome to Room 3, Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

A very warm welcome to Room 3 for 2018! I hope that you have had a wonderful start to 2018 and your children are feeling excited about the year ahead. It will be an absolute pleasure to be their teacher again for the Year 5 students and I am looking forward to teaching the Year 6, 7 and 8 students.

Below is an outline of what we will cover in class this term

Swimming will be on every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. This will begin on Wednesday the 7th of February (Week 2). Therefore, the students will need to make sure that they come prepared on those days with their towel, togs, goggles and sunscreen. Please ensure that students are prepared for swimming even on days that the weather is not looking very nice as it may improve throughout the day.

Our main focus for Mathematics throughout the first part of the term will be place value and addition/subtraction. This includes basic facts recall, particularly looking at improving our accuracy and speed. We will be focusing on developing our knowledge in this area of math and also the strategies that we use to solve problems. We will be doing many problem solving sessions with the students to help develop their skills and knowledge and also share these with their peers. We will also be concentrating on measurement with a focus on time.

There will be two focuses for writing this term - recount and poetry writing. Recount writing is a great way to begin the year as the students can record some of the fun activities they have done throughout the holiday period. Poetry writing is a fun method of exploring playing with language features and communicating children's ideas creatively. We focus on quality writing rather than quantity as a good piece of writing does not need to be long. We are going to be looking at how we can make a good piece of writing great by adding in further details and using some wow words.

Guided reading will take place on a regular basis each week. The students will be grouped and will regularly have activities to complete. These will include activities to improve language, grammar, comprehension, spelling and vocabulary.

Our Inquiry topic this term will focus on getting to know the children and building a relationship with them. We will also focus on creating our classroom culture, setting up expectations for both your children and myself alike.

For art this term we will be looking at drawing. We will look closely at some techniques and will do many sketches throughout the term. Feel free to come into the classroom and see the artwork your children will be creating.

In regards to homework, students will need to complete spelling, reading and basic facts. Sometimes there may be a mini project/inquiry for the students to complete at home, but mostly homework will focus on these three curriculum areas.

Furthermore, the Year 7 and 8 students will have Technology. Technology lessons will begin on the 12th of March (week 7) but there will be more information about this later in the term.

We are planning a short three day/two night trip away for the whole class towards the end of the term. There will be more information regarding this available later in the term.

Throughout the term we have many assemblies that you are always welcome to attend. These assemblies are a fantastic opportunity for students to share their academic and personal successes at school and for these achievements to be celebrated with you.

Kind regards,

Georgina Monigatti.