Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 1 in the Middle School. The following information gives you a broad outline of the program to be covered by the children this term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEGRATED UNITS:</th>
<th>“Healthy, Happy Me”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCURSION:</td>
<td>Healthy Day Out/Croydon Leisure Centre- Cost to be advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>INCURSIONS:</td>
<td>Life Education Van- approx. $10</td>
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<td>End of term Disco- approx $4</td>
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This term – the classroom program will include

**ENGLISH**

**Speaking and Listening**

- Listening to oral reports daily in reading groups and author’s chair
- Presenting speeches to an audience – eye contact, concentrating, projecting voice
- Circle time – restorative justice, sharing time, reports
- Good listening skills, note taking, visualizing whilst listening to stories

**Reading**

- Guided reading, small group reading activities
- Literal and inferential comprehension questions
- Critical opinion of reading texts
- Oral and written cloze
- Computer research, note taking
- Reading aloud, silent reading
- Summarising, questioning, thinking aloud, predicting and visualising from texts
- Narrative texts- understanding text features and language used
- Persuasive texts – understanding and expressing a point of view
- Home reading program as part of homework

**Writing**

- Planning, drafting, revising, proof reading, editing and publishing skills
- Narrative texts- structures and features. Developing the quality of language
- Persuasive texts – structures and features. Expressing and justifying personal opinion
- Weekly journal writing & recounts
- Emphasis on letter formation and cursive script in handwriting
- Free choice writing
- Spelling – common words, personal words, Integrated Studies words, various blends and spelling rules
- Dictionary skills – checking spelling, finding words and their meanings
- Look Say Name Cover Write Check strategy
- Grammar /Punctuation – tense of verbs, use of capital letters, full stops, editing to improve our writing and ensuring it makes sense
- Extending spelling vocabulary – widening personal vocabulary
• Using knowledge of the structure of genres to write – persuasive, poetry, recount and narrative texts.

MATHEMATICS

• Revision and extension of four processes (+, -, x and ÷) and counting
• Number facts including automatic response - daily
• Place value to thousands and rounding off numbers
• Adding money and calculating change
• Times tables – 2’s, 3’s, 4’s, 5’s, 10’s (at pupils individual level)
• Measuring units of length – formal and informal
• 2D and 3D shapes – sides, vertices, faces, edges
• Telling the time – to 15 minute intervals (G3) and to 5 minutes (G4)
• Interpreting and creating graphs
• Understanding fractions of a whole or part of a group
• Solving worded problems

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS
Physical Education – Andrew Bell

Library – Deb Wharton

Music – Braid Matthews

French – Cecile Danne

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Program
- Cooking specialist – Gregg Hansford
- Garden specialist – Anna Clarkson/ Jayne Humphrys

Middle School Sport – Class Teachers, Integration Aides and Andrew Bell
Please note children can bring alternative footwear in bags for Physical Education and 3/4 Sport sessions

HOMEWORK
Homework will be distributed Mondays and is to be returned on Fridays (beginning Feb 9th), signed by a parent/guardian. It is a reflection of the work covered in class and should be done mostly independently by the child, with parent support and supervision as needed.
Middle school students are expected to spend no more than 30 minutes per night (for 4 week nights) on homework which includes reading, spelling, Integrated Studies and maths tasks. Independent or further research on a topic is always encouraged. Pupils are expected to attempt homework at their own level. A copy of the bookwork rules has been pasted in pupil homework books to set standards.
If your child is experiencing problems with homework, please contact us as early in the week as possible. Providing a quiet workplace with writing materials for your child to complete homework will assist them in setting good routines. Helping them timetable homework into their weekly schedule to ensure it is completed on time will also enhance their independent learning skills.

Thank you,