Dear parents and families,
We have another busy term planned with lots of exciting adventures as well as a fabulous curriculum.

OUR UNIT OF INQUIRY this term is, ‘WHY EXPLORE?’
OUR UNDERSTANDINGS ARE:
• When people explore and make discoveries there are consequences for themselves and others
• Evidence of historical exploration is found in oral histories, artefacts, narratives and pictures
• Other people’s discoveries can change our lives
• We can be explorers and make discoveries
We’ve had some very interesting discussions about exploration and have noted our wonderings. The children are working collaboratively to research Australian historical exploration. They have decided on their research criteria, chosen their explorer, and will present their findings to the class. Later this term they will work independently or collaboratively on a Passion Exploration Project of their own.

During Term 4 the whole school focus is on ‘Popular Culture’. We’re all asking questions about how popular culture influences us and incorporating it into our reading, writing, spelling, speaking and listening. Each week has a different focus such as movies, short stories, advertising, media, communication, technology, comics, cartoons, food, recipes and video gaming.

3/4 CAMP
Our camp is high on the list of exciting events for children and staff this term. Although a great deal of thought, planning and organization is required, the 3/4 team values our camping program. We really appreciate the chance to get to know the children away from the classroom environment. We believe the program is relevant to the curriculum as part of the PE and Health programs and that the outdoor activities give children who don’t have a passion for mainstream sports, an opportunity to participate in some exciting, non-competitive outdoor physical activities.
The program also has many social benefits. The children are able to interact with others in a more relaxed and unstructured environment.
They have to be responsible for:
• organizing their belongings
• cooperating in their cabins and around the camp
• showing resilience and the ability to be flexible if things don’t go the way they had anticipated
• managing without all their electronic wizardry
• participating in activities which require creative solutions, which could be challenging to many of them
• interacting with everyone in the 3/4 Community

We would like to thank the parents who have volunteered to assist us with camp this year. The camping program depends on people who are prepared to help with all aspects of the camping experience. Families will all receive notices soon regarding further camp payments, clothing lists, as well as dietary and medical requirements.
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
Our artist in residence this term is Joffa the cartoonist. The children thoroughly enjoy him every time he comes so we are looking forward to this fun day. Stay tuned for Joffa’s books on how to draw different cartoon characters!

TRANSITION
Our three transition days are the 13th, 20th and 27th of November. On these days the juniors will join the 3/4 community, and our year 4’s will head off to the 5/6 area.

3/4 BLOG
As we expand our collaborative learning across the 3/4 community and beyond, we have created our very own 3/4 online blog that will keep us connected like never before. The 3/4RMPS blog was launched early term 4 and is proving to be an integral part of our collaborative teaching and learning in all areas of the curriculum and student life. As we begin to communicate and share our thoughts, ideas and current learning, it is clear that infinite opportunities are presented to us by online blogging. Our blogging page can be found at 34rmps.wordpress.com

Accordingly, students will also be engaging in regular cyber safety presentations, which will equip them with the knowledge and skills required to navigate the online environment safely and responsibly. We encourage family and friends to join the conversations and share in the mesmerising success of our talented 21st century learners.

We look forward to blogging with you soon. Happy blogging!

ARTISTS’ CAMP FAIR
Mr Van has set up a blog on which students and parents can discuss their ideas for the school fair, please feel free to contribute your ideas.

SCIENCE NIGHT
The Harry Potter themed Science Night was a resounding success. Children and their parents had a marvellous time working through a range of science activities with their parents. There were some excellent structural planning using spaghetti and marshmallows! Thanks to Melinda Browne who organized the night, and is now holidaying overseas.

PRODUCTION
We hope you enjoyed our marvellous ‘We Are All Born Free’ production at Crossways in September. The children really enjoyed working creatively and dramatically with Sharon Foley to write and perform their plays based on the United Nations Rights of the Child. They all showed great enthusiasm throughout the whole rehearsal period as well as working with children from other classes. It was fantastic to see the children from the Performing Group getting the opportunity to share their expertise with the other children. We were all so proud of every individual contribution.

HOMEWORK AND REGULAR READING
Well done to all the children who have been reading with such diligence every night, even during the holidays. Thank you to the parents who have been involved with their children’s reading, encouraging them and signing their reading logs. Our last homework grid for the year is on its way shortly.

WALKATHON
Last term the PFA organized our Walkathon. We we all had a most energetic hour of walking/running around our set course. Thanks to the parents who organized the event, it was a great day. Just a reminder that sponsorship money was due in a few weeks ago and contributions are still welcome.
Children are still encouraged to eat during our learning sessions in the classroom as long as it doesn’t interfere with teaching or learning. The food eaten in these learning times must be fruit, vegetables, or dried fruit/nut combinations. Other snack food can be eaten at recess or lunch break.

**WATER**

Drinking plenty of water keeps our brain active and our body working, so a named water bottle, filled each day, is a must, especially in the hot weather. Having a water bottle in the classroom also means our learning time is not being interrupted by trips to the taps.

**TISSUES**

We are running short of tissues for this term, and as the children still require access to them, we ask everyone to please donate another box to their classroom.

**SUNSMART**

The 1st and 4th terms are of course our Sunsmart terms. The children must wear a sunsmart hat at all times when they’re outside or they will be restricted to playing within a designated shaded area.

**PUNCTUALITY**

A reminder that the 10 to 9 bell is the time when we come into our classrooms to organize the things we need for the day. We would appreciate all children being here at this time so we can all start our work together on time.

**PORTFOLIOS**

If children have not returned their Portfolio since the middle of the year, could they please be returned to school within the next week.

We’re all looking forward to another marvellous term.

Kind Regards, Sue McNamara {3/4 Coordinator} for the team ~ Lynne Kendall, Sarah Freeman, Meg Alexander, and Elias Economou.