



**Deer Park North Primary School**  
*Learning for Life*

# 3/4 TEAM NEWSLETTER

TERM 1



## Celebrations and Reminders

- What a busy start to the year we have had! It is great to see the students so settled in their classrooms across the school!
- Remember that we wear hats at school until the end of April! This will include the first few weeks of term 2.
- With winter around the corner, we ask that students each contribute a box of tissues to the classroom. Please send a box in with your child.
- Have a great Holiday! School starts back on Monday 15th April

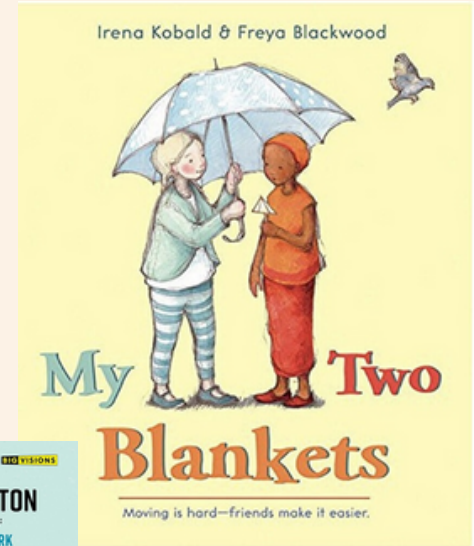


## Reading

Throughout the term, our Year 3/4 students have been immersed in a diverse range of reading experiences, exploring both non-fiction and fiction texts. Our year began with reading 'Matt Formston: Surfing in the Dark', a non-fiction text that told the story of a world champion surfer and Paralympian who is blind. Students were inspired by Matt's amazing story of resilience as he followed his dreams, no matter the obstacle. The book also exposed students to braille alongside the printed text, which prompted discussion about the different ways we can read and learn.

In addition to non-fiction, our young readers have also indulged in the magic of fiction, diving into captivating stories that have sparked their imaginations and ignited their love for reading. 'Three' by Stephen Michael King is a heartwarming story of a three-legged dog who follows his nose all over the city, out to the country, and into the arms of a new friend. Another text we enjoyed was 'My Two Blankets' by Irena Kobald and Freya Blackwood, which led students on a journey of empathy and understanding, exploring themes of friendship, identity, and acceptance.

We look forward to exploring more engaging texts and fostering a lifelong love for reading in our students.



## Numeracy

Grade 3/4 students began the year building a solid understanding of place value of whole numbers.

It was exciting when we started looking at decimal numbers!

We explored 'Time' this term and our students worked on how to read a clock and also to calculate duration.



We have also done some great work on Chance and Probability!







## Visual Art

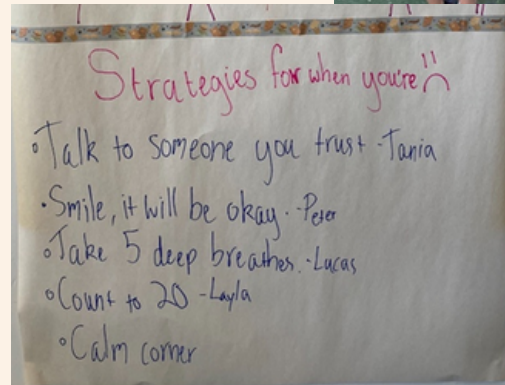
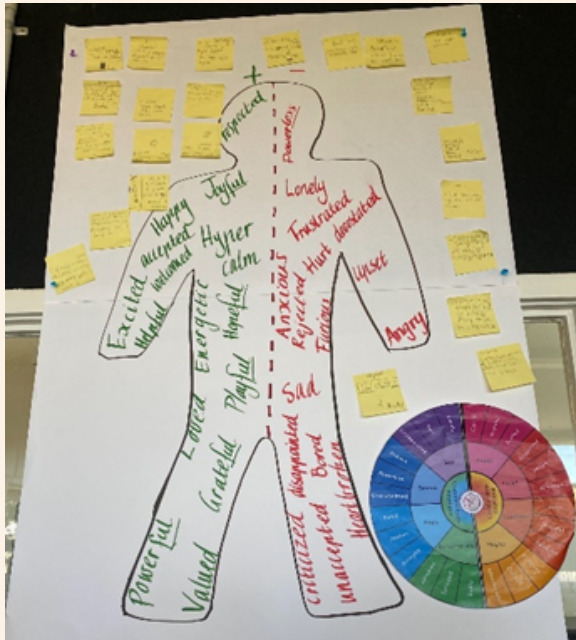
Middle School students experimented with clay. They were encouraged to make shapes and form a variety of sculptures. Students learnt how to create a pinch pot.

Students also learnt about the slip, score and blend techniques to create their work. (Slip and score in pottery is a technique used to join two pieces of clay together. To slip and score clay, a potter scratches marks on the surface of the clay (score). The potter then applies a liquid mixture of clay in water (slip) to the scored surface. Finally, the potter joins all pieces together by blending the sections together.



## Respectful Relationships

Our first unit of the year was 'Emotional Literacy'. This has involved children identifying the wide variety of positive/comfortable and negative/uncomfortable emotions we can feel each day, and discussed particular scenarios which could make them feel certain emotions. Throughout the unit so far, the children have engaged in dramatic role plays, collaborative group activities and discussions surrounding strategies they can use to overcome negative emotions, such as utilizing the calm corner.





## Performing Arts

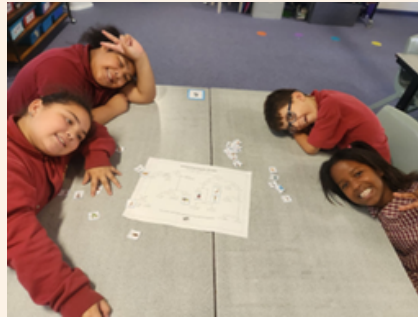
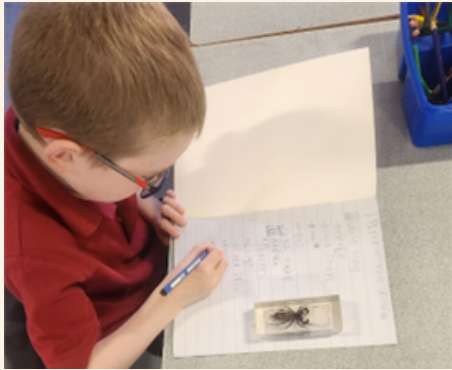
The Year 3&4's have had a great start to the year in Performing Arts. We began by exploring the foundation skills of Drama practices through using our expressive skills- which includes facial, voice, gesture and body. We then moved to exploring basic improvisation skills where students practised how to think and act on the spot. We will be finishing the term with Melodrama skills- this is a type of performance that have "stock characters" such as a Hero and Villain in the plot.





## Science

This term in Science, students have been learning about plant and animal classification. They looked at different features of animals and plants, then debated and finally decided where to put them on the classification chart. They compared different groups like fish and amphibians and realised just how different vertebrates and invertebrates really are!



## Physical Education

Year 3 and 4 students have worked really hard in their PE lessons in Term 1.

Students have been participating in an Invasion Games topic, which includes playing the sports Basketball and European Handball.

Invasion games are defined as games in which the aim is to invade an opponent's territory and score a goal or point. These games are typically fast-paced games that need teamwork in order to control the ball, keep possession, move into a scoring position, and prevent the opposition from scoring.

Year 3 and 4 students also been practicing their cross country running in PE lessons by performing lap challenges around the AFL track. Students have been focusing hard on developing their running stamina by pacing themselves throughout their laps. There will be a district cross country tournament in Term 2 for those students who have been performing high scores in their PE lessons.





Throughout this semester, AUSLAN continues to be taught to our students via video lessons provided by AUSLAN education services, as well as guidance from their classroom teacher. In these engaging lessons, students have acquired the skills to sign various essential concepts, including transport, shopping and even vegetables!

