Our Year 4 team has three teachers – Miss Giuliani, Miss Jelbart and Miss Ballestrino. As a team we are committed to the academic, social and emotional development of your child. If you have any questions, concerns or just want to come in and have a ‘chat’ about your child, do not hesitate to make a time to come in to see any one of us.

We look forward to an exciting term of learning, in the weeks ahead.

Kind Regards, Year 4 Team.

**Dates to Remember:**
- Wednesday 15 April - Walk to School Day
- Wednesday 22 April, 29 April, 6 May - Huddle Footy program
- 17 -23 May Education Week - (Crack the Code with Maths)
- Tuesday 2 June - Rugby Active Kids Incursion
- Wednesday 3 June - Baseball Active Kids Incursion
- Friday 5 June - PUPIL FREE DAY
- Monday 8 June - QUEENS BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY
- Thursday 11 June - Hockey Active Kids Incursion
- Friday 19 June - Ten Pin Bowling Active Kids Incursion
- Friday 26 June - End of Term 2 - 2.10 pm finish

**Teaching and Learning**

The topics we will be exploring this term are First Contacts (History) and Healthy Life (Health).

Our History unit will develop the students' understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and the colonisation of Australia. We will be exploring Indigenous Dreamtime stories, culture and ways of life. We will then examine European exploration and colonisation in Australia and the impact this had on the lives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

In our Health unit, students will explore a range of components that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They will investigate how food can impact on our lives and learn how to make healthy food choices. Students will also explore the range of social, cultural and economic reasons for people’s food choices.

For Reading, we will be focussing on Summarising. Students will be concentrating on determining the main ideas and themes in a text by looking for key words and phrases.

For Writing, we will be developing a Characters’ Writer’s Notebook. Students will be writing from the perspective of either an Indigenous Australian or a European Explorer back in the 1700’s.

For Numeracy, we will focussing on creating and interpreting maps, working with fractions and exploring chance and data.

**Active Kids**

Students will be introduced to the Active Kids Program which will require them to complete a task in their passport booklet daily. They will also participate in a range of FREE sporting incursions provided by trained experts in their sporting field. Students will also learn new skills while being encouraged to have an active lifestyle.

**WELS Buddy Program**

During Term 2, Year 4 students will be beginning a 6 week Buddy Program with students from the Western English Language School (W.E.L.S.) located on our campus here at Werribee P.S. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop meaningful relationships with students from a range of cultural backgrounds.

Students will be meeting up with their buddies every Tuesday from 12:20pm -1:40pm.
**Camp Manyung Wednesday 9th – Friday 11th September**

Year 3 and 4 students will be attending a camp at the end of Term 3. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in outdoor activities and spend time with friends. The approximate cost will be $230. More details will be sent out late Term 2. **Please ensure that you speak to your child about being a part of this wonderful experience.**

For your interest you can visit the camp website: [www.camps.ymca.org.au/htm/htm_manyung.asp](http://www.camps.ymca.org.au/htm/htm_manyung.asp)

**Homework (Beginning Week 2)**

Homework is an essential part of your child’s learning. Werribee Primary School’s homework policy sets no more than 30 mins each night for Year 4 students. This will include:

- Reading every night for a minimum of 20 minutes
- Mathletics
- Practising spelling words
- Another task related to what is being done in class.

Students are encouraged to organise their time and not to leave completing their homework to the last day. For example, if they have after school commitments on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, then it is important that homework is completed on Monday night when they are free. Please support your child to manage homework tasks within the allocated time frame, checking that all tasks have been completed.

The Year 4 teachers understand that there are times when completing set homework tasks can be difficult due to family commitments and a lack of resources, such as internet and books. As a result we are providing support for students during lunchtimes on Thursdays. **Students who are having difficulty completing their homework are encouraged to attend.**

**READ ALOUD TIPS, HINTS & SUGGESTIONS:**

- Make reading a story aloud a part of the daily routine and try to keep to a regular time.
- Read to your child with expression and with animation. Make it loud and make it soft.
- Share reading with your child, maybe page by page, or even chapter by chapter.
- During the reading time turn off all sources of distraction, like the television.
- Make reading a family activity where everyone reads. Let your child see that you value and enjoy reading.
- Visit the local library regularly.
- Have lots of different reading material at home: comics, magazines, newspapers, library books, non-fiction books, poetry, joke books, short chapter books.
- Make reading FUN!

**Library**

Students will have an opportunity to borrow books from the school library on Tuesday afternoons, from 2:10-3:10pm. It is expected that all children will have a library bag to protect the books they borrow. A calico bag or similar is needed. Books that are borrowed under your child’s name need to be returned by the due date.

**FIT (Fitness is Terrific)**

Every morning (except Monday) when the first bell goes, the Year 4 students will meet their teacher at a designated area for fitness activities such as relays, skipping, power walk, down ball, or games. **It is expected that all students will be at school when school starts at 8:50am ready to start FIT activities.**

**Absences**

*It’s NOT OK to STAY AWAY*  

It is important that your child is at school **every** day. Data has shown that any more than 10 days absence in one year impacts significantly on academic progress. If your child is unwell they should remain at home that day but we seek your support in ensuring regular attendance on other days. When your child is absent, please ring the school or send a note with your child when they return.