Dear parents and caregivers,

A warm welcome to Year Three! Over the year, your child will be involved in a varied and challenging program which will aim to enrich them socially, academically and emotionally. Each student will be encouraged to work to their full potential in many different activities and learning experiences. Emphasis on social skills, communication, independence and cooperation is important to achieve a happy and active learning environment. Students are encouraged to become increasingly responsible and organised. 3B is a parallel class of 29 students, which will learn and play alongside 3W.

All planning and organisation will be conducted on a grade basis with Ms Wanless, as well as stage and specialist support teachers when relevant. All activities are planned at a Stage 2 level.

Below is important information which will assist you and your child to have a successful and positive experience this year.

**School Procedures**

**Keeping Up to Date:**


Please check the website regularly for updates to school events and routines. Additional permission notes may also be accessed and printed from home if paper copies are misplaced.

If you have not yet done so, please register through the school website to receive our school newsletter, which is emailed every Wednesday. This contains important information including permission notes and school calendars. **Please note: All students are required to return an updated student information sheet, Permission to Publish and Child Protection form. These were attached via email to our Week 3 newsletter.**

**Absences** - please send a letter or email to the school within 2 days of your child returning to school. This should be done in addition to calling the school, as all absences require written explanation. For any planned absences of more than one week, we encourage you to complete the ‘Exemption from Attendance’ form, available from the front office. Absences are monitored by the Home School Liaison officer on a regular basis.

**Payments** - As you may be aware, KPS has started offering online payments, in addition to cash and cheque. To assist us with the processing of your payments, please send all permission notes in a sealed envelope, clearly labelled with your child’s name, class, reason for the payment and payment type (cash/cheque enclosed or online payment).
Uniform- Wearing the correct school uniform is one of the many ways we show pride in our school identity. Please ensure that your child is in correct uniform each day, including plain black shoes, green socks and green or gold hair accessories. We have a strict ‘No Hat No Play’ policy.

Safety- Please remember we are a NUT FREE school. Your cooperation is paramount to ensure the safety of all students and staff. Please ensure that all medical details and emergency contacts are up to date at the school office.

Crunch ‘n’ sip- As part of our PDHPE curriculum and our school’s focus on nutrition, students are invited to participate in our Crunch ‘n’ Sip program each day. This short snack consists of water, fruit and/or vegetables. It provides students with an often much-needed energy burst, whilst also promoting diverse, healthy food choices. We encourage all students to participate.

Class Organisation

Please note the following classes, which will take place in addition to regular classroom learning:

Performing Arts- Mondays
Languages- Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Scripture- Wednesday
Sport- Fridays 9.00-11.00 (Sports uniform required)

Maths Groups- Monday-Thursday
Library- Fridays (Library bag required)
Enrichment Groups- Thursday

Behaviour We place a strong emphasis on the 5Cs: cooperation, courtesy, consideration, respect of cultural backgrounds and conscientiousness. These values underpin our classroom rules and expectations. The students are encouraged to work to their full potential throughout the year and to be responsible for their own actions, equipment and learning.

Students are rewarded for positive behaviour in a variety of ways, including the use of our ‘tick system.’ This will be recorded on ‘Class Dojo,’ an online program which documents positive and negative behaviours, with the aim of communicating this to students and parents.

Communication Your child’s yellow folder is an effective way to ensure regular communication between home and school. In addition, I am always happy to answer quick questions outside of classroom learning times. However, it can be unsettling to students should parents try to do this at the 9am bell. Should you wish to discuss anything in greater detail, please request an appointment. We will be holding parent meetings during Week 10 to discuss your child’s progress.

Year Three Curriculum

The following topics and skills will be explored during Terms One and Two:
**English**

Students will develop their ability to communicate through speaking, listening, reading and writing. The NSW English K-10 syllabus for the Australian Curriculum emphasises imaginative, creative, interpretive and critical thinking as well as the use of language to suit different purposes and contexts. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their learning.

During Term One, we will explore a range of multimodal texts to develop students' understanding of how stories can be communicated using still and moving images. Students will learn about illustration and film techniques and will have the opportunity to experiment with digital technologies to support their creative writing.

Students will also participate in guided reading and writing groups, and will be involved in the explicit teaching of spelling, grammar, handwriting and speaking skills.

**Mathematics**

Students will be working with the new Signpost textbook, which is aligned with the Australian Curriculum. Learning will take place across three content strands: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Throughout these experiences, students will develop their ability to communicate ideas, solve problems, justify strategies, transfer concepts and work efficiently.

**Science and Technology**

The topic for Term One is 'Heating Up,' which will explore the phenomenon of heat energy, including its production and movement from one object to another.

**HSIE**

The topic for Term Two is 'People and Their Beliefs' which will explore the concepts of community, religion, celebrations, customs and traditions across different cultures.

**Creative Arts**

Students will develop skills in music, dance and drama with Ms Fredman. All 3-6 students will be performing in a stage musical event in Term 3.

**PDHPE**

Students participate in primary sport every Friday. Class PE lessons will focus on the development of game skills, fitness and fundamental movement skills.

**Formal Testing and Competition Opportunities**

This year, all Year 3 students will be required to sit for the NAPLAN tests. These will take place on 13th-15th May (Term 2, Week 3).
Students will have the opportunity to participate in the University of NSW Australian Schools Competitions in English, Mathematics, Computer, Science, Spelling and Writing.

**Weekly Homework Organisation for Year 3**

Students will receive their class homework tasks on Fridays, and should return their work the following Wednesday for marking. Mathematics homework will be issued by the maths teacher and will be marked every Monday in class. All work should be neatly written into homework books, unless otherwise instructed.

The weekly class homework will consist of the following tasks:

1. **Spelling list words and a unit from their Spelling Conventions textbook.**
   Students are to complete one unit in their Spelling Conventions textbook, which will be marked in class. They are also asked to choose a method that suits them to learn their weekly list words. These will be tested in class and results will be sent home for further practice when needed.

2. **Writing**
   Writing tasks aim to develop vocabulary, grammar and spelling skills and will reflect key concepts being covered in class.

3. **Home Reading ~ approximately 20 minutes each night.**
   Students are encouraged to read for approximately 20 minutes each night. Home reading is designed to be an enjoyable and relaxing activity and therefore, does not need to be logged. However, students will be asked to respond to questions and activities which are designed to develop their understanding and reflection of what they have read.

**Maths homework**

Students will complete a unit in their Signpost Maths Mentals textbook. Maths homework should be brought to maths groups every Monday and will be marked in class.

Public speaking activities and project work will be added to the homework at various times throughout the year.

If a student is absent on a Friday, it is their responsibility to collect the weekly homework sheets when they return to school. The purpose of homework is to establish effective study habits and routines as well as to develop student commitment to learning.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to arrange an appointment.

Sincerely,

Ms Gail Wanless and Miss Bettina Croft