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## Introduction

Welcome to Year 3. We have had a wonderful start to the year. It has been lovely meeting all of the new learners and their parents and catching up on the holiday gossip from both new and returning learners.

Year 3 and 4 learners will be working very closely this year and we have many exciting things planned. As teachers, we are proud of the ways the learners are working together during these times. This is a challenging expectation and, as the year goes on, these collaborative opportunities will become more natural and familiar.

Year 3 learners have been working on their Essential Agreements and their class' PYP Tree. This, along with the Nexus [Core Values \(RECIPE\)](#), underpins what happens both inside and outside the classrooms while at school.

## Unit of Inquiry

**Brainwave:** Understanding different ways of learning enables people to respond to their own learning needs as well as those of others.

Our assembly this week was the culmination of the first segment of 'Brainwave'. The learners have had great fun discovering how they learn best and comparing differing learning styles. We were fortunate to have guest speakers come and visit us to share their learning styles and experiences as learners. Year 3 and 4 learners would like to thank Dr Rosie, Ms Webb, Mr Paul and Mr Shaun for

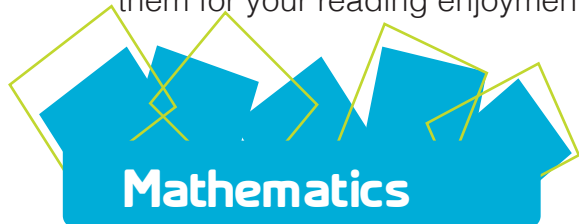
helping us with our inquiry. It was wonderful to see so many parents and guardians at our assembly today. Thank you for your support. We would like to congratulate all of the learners on a fantastic presentation of their learning journey of Brainwave. To the learners, thank you for all of your hard work.

We are about to begin a new unit of inquiry. The central idea for this unit is 'Humans are compelled to explore, resulting in new discoveries.' During this unit, learners will inquire into why people explore, the ways in which people explore and the results of exploration. The teachers are just as excited as the learners about the field trip next Tuesday that will form the entry point to this unit.



The start of each school year is a time for review. Year 3 learners have been looking at sentences and what is needed to construct a good sentence. The learners have been introduced to 'Six Star Sentences'. Each sentence needs a capital letter, correct spacing, appropriate detail, a punctuation mark at the end and to make sense, all the while being mindful of the spelling of words. As teachers, we have been impressed with the number of 'Six Star Sentence' writers within our classes.

Each learner has begun a draft piece of writing that has allowed us to get to know them a little better. We look forward to publishing these and displaying them for your reading enjoyment.



This year has begun with a review of number bonds and strategies for helping with addition and subtraction problems. All learners will benefit from a few oral addition and subtraction questions each night. This will help develop their number sense and confidence with numbers. Our online tool 'Mathletics Live' is another way for the learners to practice their mental mathematics skills.



## Health and Physical Education

Year 3 learners have been learning water confidence activities such as floating and underwater swimming through fun aquatic games. Pool safety and familiarisation has also been covered. Learners have explored the water depth from 1.1M to 2.0M deep and they have started to work towards a long distance swim of 25 metres.

In land-based HPE we have been learning class routines that are important for our health and well-being in a practical setting. Learners have been involved in a range of activities designed to encourage teamwork in a group setting. We have also begun to discuss how diet, health and exercise can help the brain to work better.



## Music

Year 3 learners have been exploring the tuned percussion instruments, learning the musical alphabet and using it to create 'word tunes' on the xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels. They have also learned clapping songs and action songs.



## Art

The Year 3 learners have been looking at art as a means of communication and expression. "Can art talk?" is a question they have been discussing. They are in the process of creating drawings to communicate an idea to each other and have begun to look at Claude Monet's paintings as an inspiration for their work. Please send in an apron or an old t-shirt to prevent pastel and paint on uniforms.

## Languages other than English

**Chinese** - Year 3 learners have revised how to introduce themselves, giving their name and age and saying where they live. The learners who have studied Chinese previously are working on using a paragraph to introduce themselves. Those new to the Chinese language are identifying the key words and are attempting to say a couple of sentences about themselves.

**French** - In the first two weeks, the learners shared their knowledge and demonstrated how to introduce themselves and express their feelings. Some learners took the lead and were able to ask questions of their teacher. They have started to use online reference materials to look up words on their own and play language reinforcement games at their own pace.

Over the next four weeks, they will talk about their house, rooms and furniture, choosing different ways to show their learning through 2 or 3D models. Additionally, they will gain a greater understanding about where they live in relation to the rest of the world, linking in with the forthcoming UOI focusing on exploration.

## Reminder

Please note the Library days for each class: 3G - Friday and 3B - Thursday  
Learners are to return their library books on these days and exchange them for new books. Learners are welcome to change their books more frequently. They can do this during lunch times.

Please make sure all clothes, water bottles and snack and lunch containers are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

### **Tuesday, 3rd September**

Year 3 and 4 Field Trip to the Port of Lost Wonder. Please remember to send your 'pirate' to school with sunscreen and a snack (in a disposable bag or container please).

