



HARVEST HOME
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Balam Newsletter

TERM 1

Dear Families,
Welcome back to HHPS for another great year of learning in the Balam Community. The students have had a great start to Year 3 and have been busy getting to know their new community teachers and each other. We look forward to continuing working with you this year to help our little learners soar to new and exciting heights.

Click the headings below, to find out more information about what is happening in Balam this term!

Reading

Writing

Numeracy

CBL & Personal and Social

Celebrations

Other Reminders

We are proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of this land.



Important Dates

Tuesday 7th March	School Photo Day
Monday 13th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 15th March	NAPLAN Writing
Thursday 16th March	NAPLAN Reading
Monday 20th March	NAPLAN Conventions of Language
Wednesday 22nd March	NAPLAN Numeracy
Thursday 6th April	Last day of Term 1

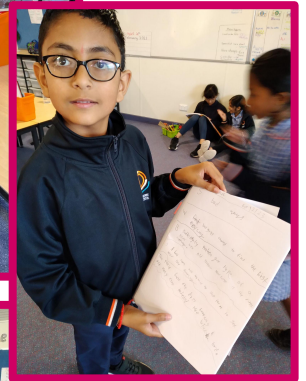
Specialist Timetable

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
Malinda/ Steph 3A	STEAM	Spanish	PE	Science & Mindfulness
Nikolina 3B	Science	PE	STEAM	Spanish & Visual Arts
Amali 3C	Spanish	STEAM	Science	PE & STEAM
Sharon 3D	PE	Science	Spanish	STEAM & Science

READING

During our start up program, students have been developing an understanding of what is expected in a reading session in year 3.

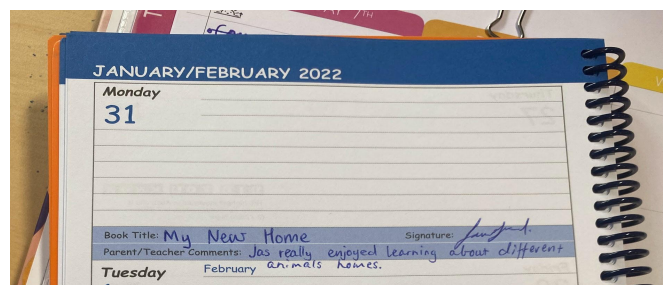
Our students are learning to summarise a fiction text and have started to work hard in building their reading stamina during Independent Reading. This term our focus will be in understanding the text in detail and answering comprehension questions.



Supporting Reading at Home:

- Log on to Sunshine Online or Reading Eggs and support your child to read online (passwords can be located in your child's diary).
- Students have been asked to begin reading each night at home. Please support your child by reading a book from home with them and logging their reading in their school diary.
- Please record how many nights your child has read by adding up the nights, so we can keep track the total of nights.
- After reading with your child, discuss the book with them to assist in building their comprehension of the text.

READ 20 Minutes A Day!		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
20 minutes a day	20 minutes a day	20 minutes a day
2,000 minutes per school year	2,000 minutes per school year	2,000 minutes per school year
1,000,000 words per year	1,000,000 words per year	1,000,000 words per year
Score in 10th percentile on standardized tests	Score in 10th percentile on standardized tests	Score in 10th percentile on standardized tests

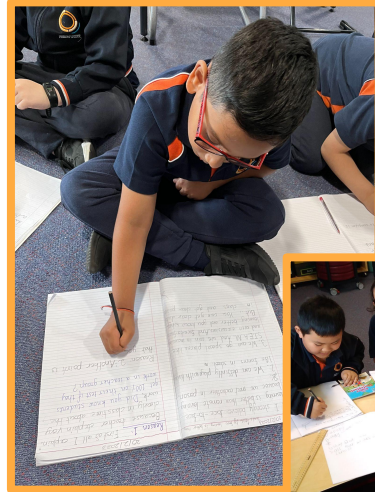


WRITING

In Balam, our students have been brainstorming what a good writing session looks, sounds and feels like. We have been identifying ways to show pride of place in our writing books and learning environments. This has been a great experience and the students are all benefiting from co-creating these expectations.

During this term we will be developing our skills in writing a persuasive text. This involves using skills in emotive language, TEEL structure and rhetorical questions. We will also be preparing to write narratives and exploring characters, settings, problems and solutions.

Balam students will be focusing on expanding their knowledge in narrative writing, genres and uplevelling their writing!



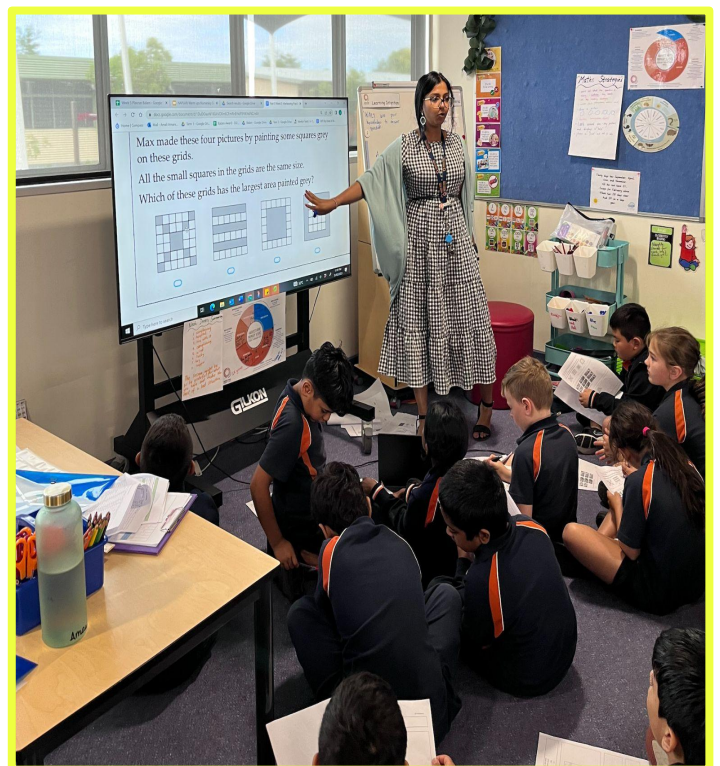
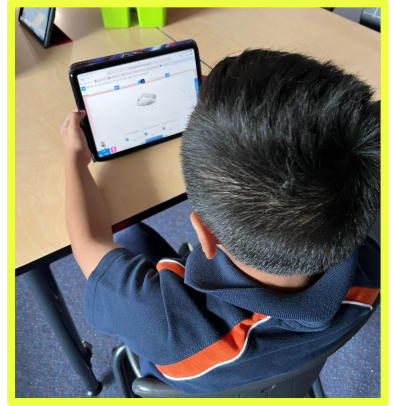
TEEL Sentence Starters			
Use these sentence starters to help you write your TEEL paragraphs.			
T	E	E	L
Topic	Evidence	Explanation	Link
I strongly believe...	For example...	This shows...	From this we can conclude...
Another point to consider is...	This is illustrated by...	This means...	It is clear that...
First of all...	This can be seen...	Therefore...	In conclusion...
It is quite obvious that...	Data shows...	Because of this...	We can therefore see...

NUMERACY

In our Numeracy sessions this term we have been focusing on building a healthy Numeracy culture and using a growth mindset. The students have shown a positive attitude towards Numeracy as they have shown their want to challenge themselves in Numeracy tasks.

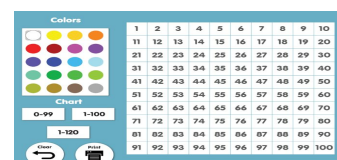
This week, the students will begin to learn about Place Value. We will be doing lots of work on pulling numbers apart and identifying their values, with a focus on 2-digit, 3-digit and 4-digit numbers. We will be using place value charts and MAB blocks to help us with our learning. In Term 1 we will also focus on Chance and Addition!

We are also excited for our At Home Learning Module beginning in Week 8 where we will be introducing and revisiting different topics. Please remember to check Compass for information in further weeks.



Supporting Numeracy at Home:

- Students can practise their Counting Goals using their Hundred's/Time Table chart in their Home Learning Folder or the interactive chart online.
- Using Mathletics and My Numeracy (Essential Assessment), students can practise and revise topics we cover throughout the year.



CHALLENGE BASED LEARNING

This year the students are part of the BYOD program. To ensure that students understand how to use their technology safely and respectfully we will come up with a community agreement on what that looks like. It has been great to have students share their ideas on how to show our school behaviours while using devices and being online.

We will also be participating in a termly incursion around promoting cybersafety called 'Inform and Empower'. Here we will learn all about what it means to be an assertive, responsible and safe citizen online.



**Do you have these APPS on your device?
Please download if you do not.**

Click on the link below for more information on Apps:

<https://harvesthomeps-vic.compass.education/Services/FileDownload/FileRequestHandler?FileDownloadType=1&file=2049>



Google Slides



Google Classroom



Google Docs

PERSONAL & SOCIAL

We have started the year revising our school values of Being Respectful, Being Safe and Being your Best. We have reflected together as a community to share how we can show these behaviours and earn Hero Stamps, stickers and badges. Inside the community and Hero Cards when outside.

We have also had discussions around what working collaboratively looks like and our School Principle of showing Pride of Place in the community and their work.

As a community we have been discussing our feelings and emotions and what strategies we can use to self regulate and be ready to learn e.g. having a movement break or deep breathing.

My Toolbox



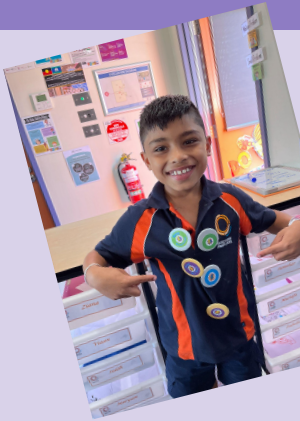
How Are You Feeling?

Name: _____

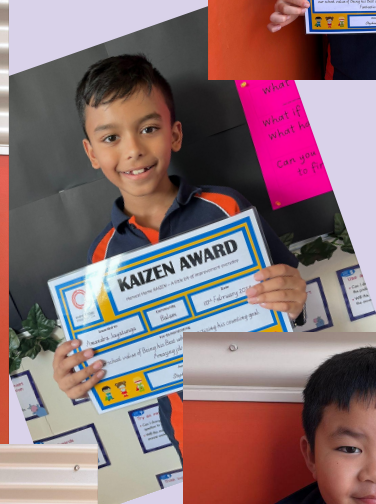
Ready to Learn	Toolbox Strategies		Not Ready to Learn Yet I need adult help	
1 	2 	3 	4 	5
Happy / Good Calm Okay / Safe Confident Positive / Hopeful	Disappointed Uncomfortable Confused Tired / Bored	Initiated / Frustrated Anxious / Worried Annoyed Misunderstood Silly / Wiggly	Overwhelmed Angry / Mad Upset	Furious Out of Control Helpless Unsafe

CELEBRATIONS

BADGES IN BALAM!



KAIZEN WINNERS



OTHER REMINDERS

HOME LEARNING

Year 3 students are encouraged to participate in a minimum of **30 minutes** of home reading per day. Consistent reading is a goal which we value and work towards to build student reading stamina.

Each Monday, students borrow a new home reading book, on Wednesday they show and swap, and on Friday students return their book. During the weekend, students are encouraged to participate in 'Sunshine Online Weekend', on their device. Please record student reading in their diaries by writing the book title and the number of times the student has read so far. **After reading**, it is recommended that families discuss the meaning of the text with their child to develop a deeper connection and understanding of what has been read.

To extend student learning at school and home, student devices have access to some amazing curriculum-based online programs. Log-in details for the websites below can be found on a sticker in your child's diary, or as a photo taken on their device.



ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school, you can explain the absence on Compass or make contact with the school on 8468 9000.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email one of us via Compass, or call the office to arrange a time to pop in for a chat.

We look forward to working with the Balam students, teachers and families to provide the best learning opportunities and environment during 2023!

Please pack the following:

- A hat and waterbottle
- Snack/fruit and lunch
- Device and reading satchel with diary
- Clearly labelled uniform and school items

Thanks from the Balam teachers,
Malinda, Stephanie, Nikolina, Amali & Sharon