

Term Overview – Term 4, October 2025



Middle Learning Community-MLC

Portarlington Primary School

Class	Teacher	Preferred Name	Email
LC 4	Jess Wailes (Cochran)	Jess	jessica.cochran@education.vic.gov.au
LC 5	Sarah Evans	Sarah	sarah.evans3@education.vic.gov.au

- We are using our school website to communicate future events. Please visit our website <https://www.portps.vic.edu.au/>.
- Please communicate with your child's teacher through the Communication and Learning Progress Diary unless the information is private and confidential.

Dear Middle Learning Community Families,

Welcome back to a new term at Portarlington Primary School! The Middle Learning team is excited to continue fostering your child's growth and success throughout 2025. We kindly ask that all students come prepared for learning each day with the necessary resources, including their student diary, drink bottle, lunch and brain food. This will help us support them in becoming the best versions of themselves.

This term, students will engage in Specialist subjects including STEM, Physical Education, and Art. For homework, we encourage students to read at home and record their reading in their diary, as well as practice their spelling words. The diaries will be checked daily.

Upcoming Events:

- This term we will have Bike Ed starting in Week 1 for Grade 4 students only.
- The swimming program begins in Week 8.

We are looking forward to a great term ahead!

Best regards,

The Middle Learning Team, Sarah and Jess

English

Years 3 & 4

- Spelling, vocabulary and grammar linked to our weekly spelling focuses

Phonics/Word Knowledge/Morphology

Years 3 & 4

This term we will continue the SMART Spelling Program is based around whole words with an emphasis on meaning and vocabulary development.

Each week your child will be bringing home a new list of words to practice each night and will have a spelling test/dictation at the end of the week.

This term will include a multitude of spelling and grammar focuses which will be sent out in our fortnightly overviews. Students will increase their word knowledge by exploring letter patterns in their weekly spelling that caters for phonological awareness and morphology (word definitions).

Handwriting

Years 3 & 4

Students will continue to develop fluency and consistency with their letter formation by practicing joined cursive handwriting.

Reading

Years 3 & 4

This term will focus on building reading fluency, through 'paired fluency' with our new texts:

- "Wild Robot", Peter Brown (Wks 1-5)
- "Leo & Ralph", by Peter Carnavas(Wks 6-10)

At home, encourage your child to read at home as it is an important lifelong skill that we are constantly rehearsing.

Writing-Seven Steps

Years 3 & 4

Our school uses the Seven Steps framework for developing student writing skills.

A large component of the Seven Steps program is thinking and talking. As they say, "**Verbal is Vital.**"

This term will cover:

- Persuasive
- Narrative

Maths

This term we will cover:

Years 3 & 4

- Data investigation
- Location
- 3D Shape
- Probability
- Multiplication & Division

Inquiry

Years 3 & 4

Our Inquiry Unit this term is entitled, "*First Contact*". Throughout this unit we will cover:

Students will learn about the lives of First Nations Australians before the British arrived, as well as why the HMB Endeavour and the First Fleet came to Australia. They will practise thinking like historians by exploring stories and artefacts to understand Australia's history from different viewpoints. The unit finishes with a presentation, where students share what they have learned by interviewing an older family or community member about an important object from the past.

Inquiry: How you can help your child at home:

Years 3 & 4



Help your child by assisting them with interviewing an older member of the family or community, ie. Neighbour about an important object from the past.