

## Term Overview – Term 1, February 2024



# Middle Learning Community-MLC

Portarlington Primary School

Class	Teacher	Preferred Name	Email
LC 4	Jess Cochran	Jess	<a href="mailto:jessica.cochran@education.vic.gov.au">jessica.cochran@education.vic.gov.au</a>
LC 5	Sarah Evans	Sarah	<a href="mailto:sarah.evans3@education.vic.gov.au">sarah.evans3@education.vic.gov.au</a>

- 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 year at Portarlington Primary School.*

*The middle learning team is excited to continue developing and supporting your children to grow and succeed in their learning throughout 2024. We ask that all students come to school ready to learn with daily resources, (student diary, drink bottle, lunch, brain food and a charged device if possible) to ensure we can help them to become the best person they can be.*

*Specialist subjects for this term are STEM, Physical Education and Art. Another specialist subject will be added in week 3. For homework we expect students to be reading at home and recording what they have read in their diary, as well as practicing their spelling words. The diary is checked daily.*

### General

- The school sends information home in a variety of ways including Compass, Email, SMS, notes in the diary and paper notes.
- Any paper notes are placed in the children's bag.
- Teachers check the diaries each day. Please check the diary and your child's bag daily.
- Please have your children at school before 8:45am.
- We also have brain food daily which involves fresh fruit or vegetables. Thank you.
- This term will cover: NAPLAN for Grade 3's only.

### English

#### Reading

This term will cover:

- Interpreting, analyzing, summarizing and predicting different text types.
- Focus on what makes a text entertaining and the comprehension strategies of making connections.
- Weekly reading strategy groups catered to students' areas of improvement.

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

#### Spelling

This year we will continue the home spelling program. 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 cover:

Students will increase their word knowledge by exploring letter patterns in weekly spelling that caters for phonological awareness and morphology (word definitions).

### **Handwriting**

This term will cover:

- Students will also develop fluency and consistency with their letter formation by practising handwriting.

### **Seven Steps Writing**

Our school uses the seven steps framework for developing student writing skills. All staff were updated on the framework on the 29/01/2023.

This term will cover:

- Students will become part of a community of writers.
- Students will follow the '7-Steps to Writing Success' to create short stories based on anecdotal moments.

## **Maths**

This term will cover:

- focus on developing as a mathematician and launching our mathematical community.
- focus on developing skills and our understanding of place value with the four operations.
- Students will participate in problem solving, active math and authentic applications of key number skills.

## **Inquiry**

This term will cover:

**Inquiry Unit:** Civics and Citizenship.

- Students will be introduced to democracy.
- Exploring the local government and the services it provides to the community.
- Considering the purpose of creating rules for groups and how rules and laws affect them.
- Explore how individuals participate in their community, cultural diversity and how belonging to different groups can shape personal identity.



### **Inquiry: How you can help your child at home:**

- Talk to your children about what local government is (City of Greater Geelong) and what they do (such as collecting the rubbish, recycling and green waste).
- Discuss different laws/rules. What is the difference between a law and a rule?
- Discuss our local community. What groups do we have in Portarlington? Community groups come together for a common purpose.
- How many Portarlington community groups can you list and what do they do?

## **Sport**

This term will include:

- Whole School Cross Country

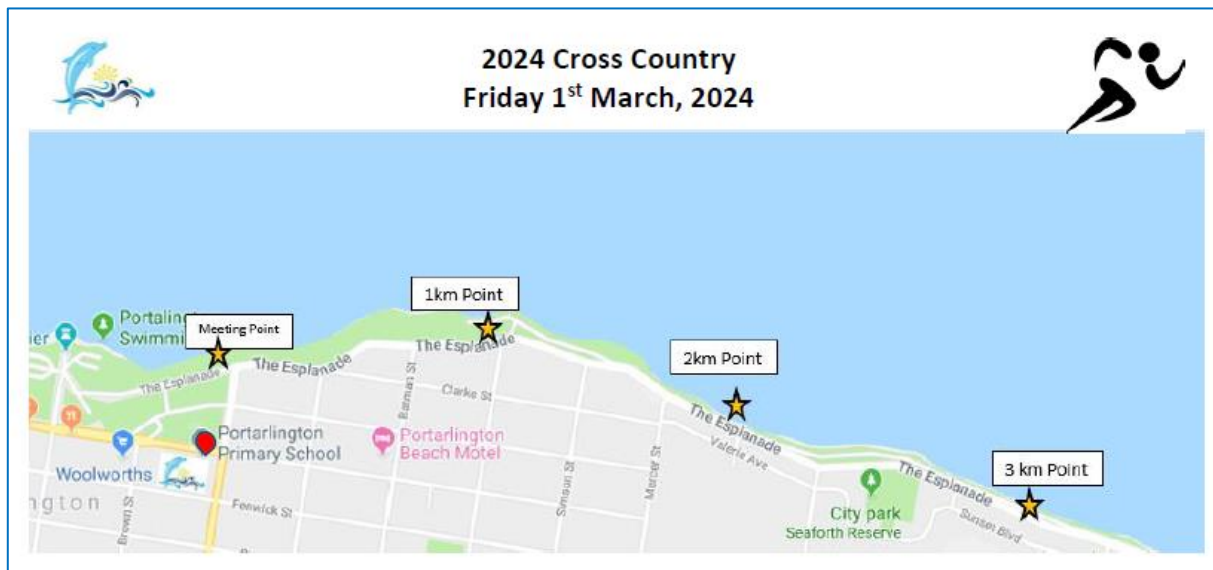
On **Friday**, we have sport, where House Captains run games.



### **Sport: How you can help your child at home:**

- Click on the website calendar [March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024](#). View the map and take your children for a walk, ride, jog, scoot along the cross-country course.
- Sign up for the 4km Sunset Run: - Bully Buster 4km Run or walk.

Standard entry 12 years and under: - \$10  
Register [here](#).



## Kitchen Garden

Commences in Term 2.