# Welcome to 3L

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**Focus for the Morning**

# Background

# Teaching Philosophy

# Information Sheet about your child

# Classroom Routines

# Curriculum Areas

# NAPLAN

# Camps

# Parent/Teacher Communication

# Questions

# Background

* Have been teaching for31 years –K, Years 1, 2, 3 and 5 and 6
* Taught in Department of Education schools from 1987-1991 and 2014/2015
* Taught at Central Coast Grammar School from 1992-2010 and 2008-2011 where I taught various grades including Year 5 as a laptop teacher, Year Leader, Stage Leader and Acting Deputy of Junior School
* During 2005-2008 worked at The British International School, Jakarta as Kindergarten Year Leader and Head of Mathematics (K-6)
* From 2011 -2013 I taught in Singapore at the Australian International School on Year 1 and Year 2. In 2013 I was Head of Year 2 (12 classes -264 children!)
* My wife is Head of the Library at St Edwards College, my eldest son works for Foreign Affairs and has just been posted to the embassy in Jakarta and my youngest son is studying International Relations in Canberra butreal love is reptiles. It has put into perspective the importance of supportingyour child’spassions and not just their school results

**Teaching philosophy**

* Foster an environment where children feel safe to learn, to take risks and learn from their mistakes.
* Allow each child to see themselves as an individual and to reach their full potential.
* Encourage children to strive for excellence at their own level
* Cater for individual needs through a range of teaching strategies – point of need teaching
* Encourage children to be resilient, independent and responsible
* **Have high expectations in all areas of their school life** – I make no apologies for setting the bar high in 3L
* Enjoy school!!

**Our Week**

* **Library** Tuesday 10.00am
* **Scripture** Tuesday 2.05pm
* **PE** Wednesday 2.00pm-bring PE shoes
* **Assembly** Friday 9.00am
* **PE/Sport** Friday 10.00am
* **Mrs Cleverly** Thursday

**Essential Agreements**

We agree to help each other out and work as a class together.

We agree to be respectful and think about others feelings.

We agree to be able to have fun and not get out of control.

We agree to strive to the best of our ability.

We agree to include others in games and activities.

We agree to settle problems peacefully.

We agree to be safe, respectful learners.

We agree to accept others for who they are and their beliefs.

**Award Systems**

Intrinsic motivation is my aim – I strongly believe that children need to develop the determination to succeed through diligent work habits.

**Classroom Routines**

* Homework - There are no additional homework expectations other than daily reading and maths practice (preferably using Mathletics, where possible). This is in accordance with the KPS Homework policy.
* Google Classroom
* Mathletics –tasks will be assigned for your child to do which match what we are doing in class.
* Fruit Break
* Library is on Tuesday at 10.00am. Please ensure students are organised for learning with library bag and books at school on Tuesday. Students are encouraged to borrow a book to take home and a book to read in the classroom for DEAR reading. Stage 3 students are encouraged to read widely and from a range of different genres. They are encouraged to be reading novels and extended stories. The DEAR program meets the NSW English syllabus expectation of students engaging in sustained silent reading for at least 20 mins per day.

**Naplan**

NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It tests the types of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken every year in the second full week in May.

NAPLAN testing takes place during the 15th to 17th of May in 2018.

Online testing will not occur for KPS in 2018

Link on KPS Website

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

**Maths**

Maths groups are class-based, skill-streamed math groups. Students across Stage 3 will still sit regular pre-tests and post-tests but will not be grouped across classes in 2018.

Teachers are expected to group according to student and modify support/extension according to individual student needs within the classroom.

Mathletics (computer-based learning) will be timetabled each week so that all students have scheduled computer time for Mathletics.

**English**

English units of work will run throughout a term, focusing on teaching stage-appropriate content grouped around essential English concepts.

The focus for Writing in Term 1 will be on making the correct text choice to meet a specific purpose.

Novel Study - Hitler’s Daughter

Grammar- based focus as identified through Naplan analysis

Comprehension- [Super Six Strategies](Super%20Six.pdf)

 - differentiated groups to meet specific needs

 - we might be doing the same strategy but at different levels

**Child Protection**

There is an excellent summary on the Kincumber PS Website

<http://www.kincumber-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/curriculum/stage-3/current-unit-of-work>

Child protection is a sensitive, challenging area for school communities. Because children and young people are relatively powerless in abusive relationships they rely on responsible adults to intervene and to assist them. The New South Wales Department of Education and Training, as an agency responsible for the care and welfare of students in schools, has a charter to protect the young people in its care from sexual, physical and emotional abuse and neglect, and from improper conduct of a sexual nature.

**Stage 3 Camp:**

To be confirmed

**Parent/Teacher Communication**

* All stage/class notes, will be available electronically.
* The Stage 3 web-page will be maintained and kept up-to-date with relevant class information in 2018. **Make sure you have the Skoolbag App** as well: this is organised in classes in 2018 to make notes/reminders/alerts more specific for students in individual classes.
* Every note sent home will be saved on the webpage and sent as a Skoolbag alert as well. Email will be used this year to keep in regular contact with parents. Please ensure that your email details are up to date at the front office.

**Transition to High School**

* This year KPS will continue to work closely with Kincumber High School in providing experiences for Year 6 students to prepare for high school transition.
* Part of high school transition involves encouraging students to take more individual responsibility for their learning, increasing their personal organisation skills and time management skills and developing the ability to ‘work tough’, persisting when learning is challenging.
* Transition activities at Kincumber HS include Talented and Interested Days, Sports Days, Literacy and Support sessions and Orientation Days. Teachers walk the students to these days so it is important not to be late on these special days
* The first day is coming up on 23 March

**Important Dates**

26 Feb Swimming Carnival

1 March Tour de Cure Visit

2 March Clean Up Australia Day

7 March 5 Lands Photography Workshop

13 March Zone Swimming

15 March Selective High Schools placement tests

23 March KHS Sports Transition Day (Year 6 only)

3 April Student Led Conferences begin (2 weeks

**Good Communication**

**R**equest an appointment to discuss important or lengthy issues.

**E**mail vital information.

**S**eek answers to understand and clarify.

**P**rofessional relationships.

**E**ngage in discussions with the class teacher in the first instance.

**C**ommunicate the topic of an interview beforehand.

**T**imely communication – 24 hour response time to emails where possible

**Notes**