



## **Term 3, 2025**

### **Year 7 Learning Overview**



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 3 in Year 7! We hope you and your children enjoyed a well-deserved and restful break. We're looking forward to another term filled with challenge, growth, and meaningful learning alongside your wonderful children. As always, it promises to be a busy and exciting few weeks ahead.

Each week, the school focuses on a theme designed to build character and strengthen key competencies. We introduce the theme with a message in Monday's Chapel, and throughout the week, students are encouraged to reflect and engage with it. We wrap up each theme at Friday's Assembly, where students share their thoughts and reflections, and we often highlight inspiring role models who demonstrate the theme in action.

The themes for this coming Term are:

Week 1 **Being a Team Player**

Week 2 **Being Courteous**

Week 3 **Being Encouraging**

Week 4 **Being Optimistic**

Week 5 **Being Purposeful**

Week 6 **Being Reflective**

Week 7 **Being Tolerant**

Week 8 **Being Reliable**

Week 9 **Thinking Positively**

## School Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for the Term 3 School Calendar. Please note this is updated regularly.

## Week Ahead

Please remember to check your inbox every Friday for The Week Ahead. It includes important information about upcoming events and activities, so be sure to read it carefully to stay up to date.

## Learning Conferences - Week 3, Term 3

The purpose of the upcoming Learning Conference is for your child to share their learning progress and current goals with you. Further details about how to book a conference will be emailed shortly. To support the conversation, we encourage you to bring a copy of your child's school report with you for reference.

Please note:

- There will be no after-school sports practices during this week.
- All Year 3-8 children attend their conferences.
- Conferences are 10 minutes. If you would like to spend some time with your child's teacher without your child present, please mention this to the teacher at the beginning of the interview.
- Friday bookings are for Boarding families only.

## Maths and Specialist Learning Conferences - Week 6, Term 3

These conferences take place in Week 6 with Specialist and Maths Teachers in the Performing Arts Centre. These meetings are a brief 5-minute opportunity to have a catch-up regarding your child's learning. If you feel you will need more than 5 minutes, please contact your child's teacher by email to arrange an alternative time.



## ICAS Competitions

Southwell students in Year 4-8 have the opportunity to participate in the 2025 ICAS Competitions. Information and registration details for ICAS were emailed out mid last term. For those that register, ICAS competitions are scheduled to take place Weeks 5-7, Term 3.

## House Chapel Service - Evensong

All Houses will be attending Chapel on Sunday, 20th July.

- 4.00pm - Canterbury/Lincoln/Durham (Boys' and Girls' Choirs)
- 5.15pm - Winchester/Salisbury/York (Boys' and Girls' Choirs)

If you are unable to attend on the day, please let the Leader of your child's House know closer to the time.

### **Health and Sexuality**

In Term 3, students will take part in learning focused on Health and Sexuality. The programme will explore the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty, helping students understand and navigate this important stage of development. A letter with further details will be sent home this week. Lessons will begin in Week 3, led by class teachers. If you would like to discuss the programme or view the teaching materials, please feel free to contact your child's teacher directly.



### **Opera**

Term 3 is an exciting time for many of our students who are involved in the Opera. This is a remarkable opportunity that requires dedication, focus, and energy. During this busy period, it's important that students prioritise their wellbeing by maintaining healthy routines—eating well, getting enough sleep, and staying active. We also encourage our Year 7 students to speak with their teachers if they need help balancing their Opera commitments with schoolwork. Please note that due to Opera rehearsals and performances, there will be no class drama lessons this term.

### **Learning in Year 7**



#### **Writing - Year 7 Teachers**

This term, students will continue to develop their understanding of the writing process and will be encouraged to build greater stamina and confidence in their writing. They will apply their knowledge of the Seven Steps to create more dynamic, purposeful, and engaging pieces.

#### **Reading - Year 7 Teachers**

This term, students will continue to strengthen their comprehension skills to deepen their understanding of texts and grow as confident, capable readers. Daily reading remains a key part of our homework expectations, and many students will have novels they are working through. We encourage you to support your child by monitoring their reading habits and letting their teacher know if they need help accessing additional reading material.



**Maths - Year 7 Teachers, Mr Walch, Mr McKay & Raewyn Steffert**

Students will be focusing on the Measurement and Geometry strands. They will be working towards becoming efficient in measuring and estimating using appropriate standard units. Learning experiences will also be directed towards applications of measurement and to the use of measurement formulae. In Geometry, the students will be covering aspects of Shape, Position, Orientation, and Transformation.

**Social Sciences - Year 7 Teachers**

This term, our inquiry, Trade Truths: What's the Real Cost? falls under the transdisciplinary theme 'How We Organise Ourselves', with a focus on systems, structures, and networks that support livelihoods and trade. Our central idea explores how our choices as consumers and producers have significant ethical and social impacts on individuals, communities, and the environment. Students will investigate how ethical trade practices work to balance the rights and responsibilities of producers and consumers, and examine the economic, social, and environmental consequences when trade is not fair or ethical. They will also learn how individuals and groups advocate for change and implement fairer systems, and consider the power of consumer choices in shaping what producers do. This inquiry will help students develop an understanding of the real-world impact of trade and the role they can play in promoting positive change.

**Christian Education – Reverend Canon Neale Troon**

This term, students will be learning more about the impact of a life of Faith, Hope & Love when applied to their emerging spiritualities.

**Technology - Mr Williams**

Students become ethical product designers, exploring how to create functional, innovative and sustainable products using recycled materials. Through hands-on projects, they investigate the environmental, social, and cultural impact of product design.

**Science - Ms Voss**

Students will start the term looking at key vocabulary that relates to Ecology and their transdisciplinary theme of Fair Trade. They will also investigate the chemistry of photosynthesis, with a focus on plants as producers. Throughout the second part of the term we will be focusing on Magnets and their properties.

### **Music - Mrs Albery**

In this unit, Year 7 students will discover the diverse instruments of the orchestra, from their unique sounds to their construction. We will also undertake a mini-inquiry into how instruments have evolved over time, aiming for students to make connections between musical development and our broader global responsibility.

### **Physical Education - Year 7 Teachers, Mr Botha, Miss Lovell, Mr Norman**

**Empty my Tank** (Cross Country and Fitness) - This unit is designed to empower students to achieve personal growth, regardless of their individual fitness abilities, by working towards our school cross-country and general fitness goals using a range of different training methods.

**Athletics** - The aim of the unit is for students to participate in a variety of field and track events. Through video, peer and teacher feedback, students are able to implement this knowledge to improve their performance.

### **Art - Mrs Wing**

This year in art, students will be exploring the theme of Kiwiana. They'll be drawing, painting, and creating artworks that reflect what makes Aotearoa unique. Each lesson is a chance for students to try out different materials and techniques, build their confidence in art making and be inspired by New Zealand artists along the way.

### **Pottery - Mrs Wathen**

Students will explore the pottery techniques necessary to create artworks around the concept of 'Kiwiana'. Students will explore slab, coil and pinch pots to hand building. Wheel work will take place over the term.

### **Healthy Choices - Ms Hazlett**

This term, we will use the inquiry focus to explore different aspects of living in a healthy and mindful manner, particularly in relation to ethical practices surrounding the food we eat and prepare. We will achieve this through creative pursuits in fair trade food, focusing on fairness and principled living.



### **Languages - Mrs Grant**

말해요! (Mal-hae-yo!) Speak Up! As members of a K-Pop group, Year 7 students will use their platform to inspire fans by communicating important ideas in Korean. This term, they will focus on fast fashion 패스트 패션 (pae-seu-teu pae-syeon), learning about its impact and promoting responsible choices. Students will build vocabulary, practise key phrases, and create short messages to share their advocacy. In Week 5, we will celebrate Languages Week, embracing the diverse cultures within our school community.

### **Library - Mrs Walch**

The Year 7 classes have an hour in the library (instead of 40 minutes like other classes), approximately half of which is allocated to supporting the students, and the teachers, with developing inquiry skills and learner attributes. We also aim to respond to the needs of individual classes, with specific reference to encouraging reading for pleasure, inquiry skills and library skills. Each library session will include some time for children to choose, and enjoy, new reading material. At the start of Term 3 we will feature the 2025 New Zealand Book Award finalists.

Please remember that learning is a partnership involving your child, you as parents, and the teacher. If you have any questions regarding your child, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

We are looking forward to a great term together in Year 7. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Hazlett  
Josh McCabe  
Bridget Hawthorn  
Rachel van Heuven  
Gayle McLean  
Tamsyn Riggins

**Year 7 Teachers**

