



Term 2, 2026 Year 3 & 4 Learning Overview

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2.

A warm welcome to all our families! We are stepping into what promises to be an incredibly exciting term. Our focus for the coming weeks centres on our vibrant Inquiry topic: How We Express Ourselves. To kick things off, students will explore a variety of artistic disciplines. Following this "taster" phase, they will dive into a Passion Project, choosing a specific medium, be it visual arts, performance, or music, that they particularly resonate with to express their own unique ideas.

Completing our Community Inquiry: The PJ Project

We want to extend a huge thank you to the parents who visited us last term to speak about their roles within our community. To bring this Inquiry to a meaningful close, we want to put our learning into action by "giving back."



We have chosen to support the **Kindness Collective's PJ Project**. We will send home more detailed information shortly, but essentially, we are inviting families who are able to purchase a new pair of pyjamas to donate to children in need. You can learn more about this wonderful initiative here: [Kindness Collective PJ Project](#)



Upcoming Events & Key Dates

Book Week (Week 2)

Southwell Book Week starts on Tuesday, April 28th. Our visiting author for all students is the legend that is Donovan Bixley - author and illustrator of a multitude of fabulous books, from Looky Books, through the Maui picture books, Flying Furballs adventures to thoughtful and beautiful illustrated works about Mozart and Da Vinci

There will be many exciting opportunities to embrace reading during the week - including House quizzes, class-based activities, Library competitions and activities. The culmination of the week is always the excitement of Book Character Day (Friday, May 1st) when students dress up as their favourite book character and come to school. This is always a sight to behold and we can't wait to see it all happen again! Do have a chat with your children about **your** favourite book, book character or magazine growing up. These conversations create interest and excitement - you are their reading role models!!

Staying Informed

- **School Calendar:** For all upcoming dates and events, please refer to the School Calendar [HERE](#). This is updated regularly, so it is your best source for the most current information.
- **The Week Ahead:** Every Friday, the School Administrator emails the "Week Ahead" to all Southwell parents. Please ensure you are receiving this and reading it carefully, as it contains vital details for the following week.

Daily Routines

Morning Arrival: To ensure a smooth start to our learning, please ensure your child is at school by 8:20 a.m., ready for the bell at 8:25 a.m. Classrooms: Open from 8:00 a.m.

- **Early Drop-offs:** During these cooler autumn and winter months, the Library is available if you occasionally need to drop your child off before 8:00 a.m. Please note that the Library is unsupervised until 8:00 a.m.

Year 3 and 4 Production

We are very excited to have both our Year 4, and Year 3, students involved in their production of "The Wizard of Oz". Save the date for **Wednesday, 3 June**. More information to come in the next week or two.

Learning in Years 3 & 4

Reading and Writing

Students will continue to work towards their goals with a particular focus on Structured Literacy. It is important that your child reads every day. You can help reinforce their understanding by talking about the text with them. In writing, we will build on goals and encourage children to have a personal voice in their writing. Remember that your child can access Steps Web at home to help consolidate their spelling skills and help transfer these skills into their everyday writing.

Mathematics - Year 3 & 4 Teachers, Miss Lovell & Mr Rees Gibbs

In Year 3 and 4, we will continue working through the scope and sequence in our maths classes. This is targeted to individual maths needs. We encourage students to log on to Maths Buddy / Mathletics if they can as part of their homework, as this helps cement what they have been learning in class. As always, a focus on learning basic addition and subtraction, multiplication, and division facts, both at school and at home supports all learners with mathematical problem-solving skills.

Science - Mrs Steffert

This term in Science, our Year 4s will continue exploring what it means to think and work like a real scientist. We will be focusing on developing practical skills, specifically how to use scientific equipment to measure and read a variety of scales accurately. To put these new skills to the test, students will apply their knowledge to measure, formulate, and create a range of fun, hands-on mixtures and products! This practical application will help them see firsthand exactly why precision matters!

Drama - Mrs Walker

This term, all Year 4 students will use the techniques of facial expression, gesture, movement, and voice to create and perform a character in the 2026 Years 3 & 4 production of "The Wizard of Oz".

Christian Education - Rev. Blythe Cody & Rev. Matt Pickering

Students will be following the Church's season of the Feast of Pentecost and lessons pertaining to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Coupled with this will be a series of real-life experiences of people adapting to or challenged by issues of faith in their everyday lives. Year 4 students will continue to learn about important aspects of Jesus' life, and be introduced to some incredible Christian artists who express themselves through art to honour God and inspire us.

Languages - Mrs Grant

Students will develop their Spanish language skills and explore how language shapes cultural identity and expression through cultural celebrations. They will learn how song, dance, stories, and art help us understand ourselves and others. In Week 4, they will celebrate at the Southwell disco through music and dance. Later in the term, they will join the Seven Sisters (Pleiades) celebration alongside Matariki, deepening their understanding of identity and belonging.

Physical Education - Mr Botha and Miss Lovell

Swing, Spin, Soar! (Gymnastics): Students will focus on developing body control and awareness within locomotion movements as they explore swinging, rolling, balancing, jumping, landing, and moving within our gymnastics unit.

To infinity and Beyond (Team Invasion): In this unit, students will explore the concepts of invasion, focusing on developing the ability to utilize space effectively to evade an opponent or to close down space when marking.

Bulls eye! (Throwing and Catching): Students in this unit will get to play a variety of games with the goal of improving their hand-eye coordination when throwing and catching.

Just let me play: Students will have the chance to simply enjoy participating in physical activity, whether revisiting a previous activity, discovering something new, or playing old favourites.



Year 3 Performing Arts - Mrs McIntyre

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice through singing a range of folk songs individually and with others. The students will become more confident in singing the pitches so, mi, la and do and using the solfa hand signs. Students will also learn to notate crotchet, quaver and semiquaver rhythms and crotchet rests in songs, as well as beginning to learn about minims. They will also work on learning songs for their production.

Year 4 Music - Mrs McIntyre

Students will continue working on establishing a tuneful singing voice through singing a range of folk songs individually and with others. They will also learn the songs for their production. The students will also become more confident in singing the pitches so, mi, la, do and re and fluently using the solfa hand signs. They will begin to identify ti and fa also. Students will also learn to notate crotchet, quaver and semiquaver rhythms in songs with confidence and become more confident in dictating the minim note. They will also continue working on the listening unit 'Peter and The Wolf'.

Digital Technology - Mr McKay

This term, Year 3 and 4 students are exploring the "language of computers" by learning about **binary code**. They will apply this knowledge creatively by designing their own digital pixel art, translating sequences of 0s and 1s into unique visual masterpieces.

Library - Mrs Huggins

The focus throughout the year in the library is to respond to the needs of individual classes, with specific reference to encouraging a love of literature, library skills and where appropriate, inquiry skills. Each library session will include some time for children to choose their books and read, and also a short teaching session. We will be supporting the classroom 'Just Read' programme by ensuring that all students have a good that is a 'good fit' for them.

We are looking forward to another term of fun and learning in our Year 3 and 4 syndicate. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you are unsure about anything. If you have a concern, please ensure the first port of call is the classroom teacher.

We look forward to a creative and kind-hearted term ahead!

Warm regards

Kirsty McDonald (Dean)

Linda Simon

Jess Field

Barb Nicholson

Year 3 & 4 Teachers