Welcome!
Welcome to Year Four. Our teachers are:

Room A4  Jasmin Stapleton
Room A5  Naomi Watts
Room A6  Rosie Smyth

Our team leader is Jasmin Stapleton. We are your first point of call to discuss any cares or concerns. If you wish to speak to us please phone to arrange an appointment after school on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

We look forward to working with you throughout 2013.

Parent Helpers
We value the support of As a team we greatly appreciate the support of parent helpers in our classrooms. There are many ways you can assist such as changing books, listening to children read, typing stories, helping run a small literacy or numeracy group and compiling resources.

We require all classroom helpers to participate in our Parent Helpers induction sessions which will run during Term One on Wednesday 20th of February at 9.00am and 7.00pm.

**Please note parents who participated in 2012 induction programs do not need to attend again this year.**

Reading
During whole class and instructional ability group sessions we will focus on developing the skills of:

- Fluency/expression
- Comprehension
- Prediction
- Retelling

Building vocabulary through modelled, shared and independent reading.

Writing
During whole class and instructional ability group sessions students will develop their skills through:

- Recounts of personal experiences
- Narratives and persuasive text
- Planning for writing
- Reviewing and Revising
- Spelling rules and strategies
- Correct size and formation of letters when writing using joins.

Home School Communication
Please ensure that all communications to school are sent in the red bag.

Diaries should be sent to school daily, with home reading recorded and initialled. Relevant dates are recorded in the diary by the children, so please check them daily.

English
Speaking & Listening
Teaching will focus on developing students’ ability to express and respond in persuasive and meaningful ways using complete sentences.

Learning experiences include:

- Circle time/Share time
- Readers’ Theatre
- Retelling information
- Questioning to clarify meaning
- Listening to and responding to stories
- Listening to others and responding appropriately
- Oral presentations

Spelling
At this level we aim to have students use correct spelling of high-frequency words and words with regular spelling patterns (day, stay). Teaching & learning experiences include:

- Thrass keywords, graphs and phonemes
- Words from writing
- Words from class topics
- Word building
- Vocabulary and word knowledge

Look Say Cover Write Check

You Can Do It!
The main purpose is to optimise the social, emotional, and academic outcomes of all young people.

The five Foundations of the program are

- Organisation – planning and goal setting
- Getting Along – playing by the rules, tolerance
- Persistence – working tough, giving effort
- Confidence – independence, risk taking acceptance
- Resilience – talking to someone, being positive

We will be focusing on the Foundation of ‘Organisation’ this term. This includes “setting a goal to do my best in my schoolwork, planning my time so that I’m not rushed, and having all my supplies ready.”

Personal Development
Our School Values
Learning: Getting better at what we do and how we think.
Honesty: Being truthful.
Cooperation: Working with others for the good of everyone.
Responsibility: Making good decisions and setting a good example.
Caring: Looking after yourself and being considerate of others.
Respect: Being polite and taking care of our environment.
**Mathematics**
During whole class and instructional ability group sessions students will develop their skills to
- Use place value understandings to interpret large numbers, order and write in words.
- Detect patterns in number and continue sequences using set rules (larger numbers)
- Apply addition and subtraction to solve problems
- Use digital and analogue time correctly.
- Interpret timetables and calculate duration.
- Recognize angles in the environment beyond right angles.
- Explain their reasoning and strategies using relevant Mathematical language.
- Expand automatic recall of number facts, counting and tables.

**Inquiry Learning**
During Term 1 our topic is Australian History: ‘First Contacts’ (pre and post European settlement).

Students will be assisted to devise inquiry questions and explore a variety of resources for investigations.

Key inquiry questions include:
- Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
- What was life like for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples before the arrival of the Europeans?
- Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?

**Better Buddies**
We are all excited about the introduction of the Better Buddies framework at Kismet. The aim of the program is to create a friendly and caring school community that supports students as they move through the school.

We will be holding regular Better Buddies activities throughout the year. Our first key event will be our ‘Better Buddies Welcome’ to be held on Friday 15th of February. If you would like further information about Better Buddies please visit [www.betterbuddies.org.au](http://www.betterbuddies.org.au).

**Homework**
Reading is the focus of this term’s homework. Follow up comprehension and reading response activities will also be provided.
You can support us by:
- Monitoring home reading and comprehension activities and check homework
- Encouraging independent thinking

**Timetables:**

- **Room A4  4J**
  - 2.15pm  Tuesday Library
  - 9.00am  Wednesday Art
  - 10.00am  Wednesday Music
  - 12:30pm  Thursday PE
  - 10:00am  Friday Sport

- **Room A5  4W**
  - 12:30pm  Monday Library
  - 9.00am  Wednesday PE
  - 10.00am  Wednesday Art
  - 2:15pm  Thursday Music
  - 10:00am  Friday Sport

- **Room A6  4S**
  - 11:30am  Monday Library
  - 9.00am  Wednesday Music
  - 10.00am  Wednesday PE
  - 2:15pm  Thursday Art
  - 10:00am  Friday Sport

**Dates to Remember**
- 6th Feb: Community Welcome Evening
- 7th Feb: House Swimming
- 15th February: Better Buddies Welcome
- 20th Feb: Parent Helpers Induction session
- 26th-27th Feb: Parent Teacher Interviews
- 28th Feb: Twilight Swimming
- 1st March: House Athletics
- 11th March: Labour Day holiday
- 12th March: Curriculum Day (Student free day)
- 18th March: School Photos
- 20th March: Interschool Athletics
- 22nd March: Australiana Fete
- 28th March: House Cross Country
- 28th March: End of Term 1