



YEAR THREE INFORMATION

OUR AIM

- To create an exciting learning atmosphere where the boys feel engaged, comfortable and secure.
- To have a positive approach to all boys, their abilities and the work they produce.
- To focus on individual needs in order to create a feeling of positive self-worth in each boy.
- To create a growth mindset where students who have not yet achieved something believe they still will.
- To create a safe environment where learning risks are encouraged and mistakes are seen as a positive learning experience.

OUR TEAM

Mr Hamish Oates- Team Leader	oatesh@knox.nsw.edu.au	3O classroom teacher
Mrs Tina Ruddock- Wellbeing Leader	ruddockt@knox.nsw.edu.au	3R classroom teacher
Mrs Wendy Parker	parkerw@knox.nsw.edu.au	3W classroom teacher
Mrs Monique Hodder	hodderm@knox.nsw.edu.au	3H classroom teacher
Mrs Nely Daher	dahern@knox.nsw.edu.au	3D classroom Teacher
Mrs. Alison Grant	granta@knox.nsw.edu.au	Learning Enhancement

KEY LEARNING AREAS

A brief overview of the content to be covered in English, Mathematics and Knoxigations will be provided at the beginning of each new Knoxigations unit on the Year 3 page of the **Knox Portal**. In addition to this, the weekly The Prep Magpie article will also contain useful information.

MATHEMATICS

The strands are Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability with Working Mathematically integrated across the three strands.

We promote a personalised learning approach in the instruction of Mathematics. The grouping of students will therefore be fluid and based on a pre-determined starting point for each different concept. It is common for there to be much movement across the Maths classes.

This starting point is established using a range of data, including the MAP Growth Assessment Tool. Within these groupings, students will have the opportunity to learn in an environment that best suits their needs and strengths.

At times, your son may have an overall RIT score higher or lower than other students in other classes. **We do not refer to the overall score, rather we concentrate on the content area to help establish groupings.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on patesh@knox.nsw.edu.au or Mrs Tammy Paterson the Director of Learning K-6 paterson@knox.nsw.edu.au.

Khan Mappers: We ask that the students access Khan Mappers as part of their weekly homework. This online program provides tasks that are based on an individual's RIT scores as ascertained by the termly MAP Growth test. We specifically encourage practice in the areas of focus which can be determined by the lowest score. Your sons MAP scores will be placed in the back of the school diary towards the end of each Term.

Problem solving: All Year 3 students will be immersed in problem solving at their level of need. All Year 3 students will have weekly problem solving as part of their Maths homework. This will be found in the homework section of the portal on the Year 3 page.

ENGLISH

The focus of the syllabus is to make meaning through language. This is made possible through the study of quality literature which encompasses texts that give insight into the Indigenous cultural experiences as well as Australia's neighbours and the other cultures which have influenced Australia's development to date. They also include visual literacy texts and texts which embrace children's imagination. This is done through drama scripts, poetry, prose, picture books and novels.

Similar to Mathematics, students will be placed into Reading Groups for three periods per week. During these lessons they will specifically have opportunities to develop their reading and written comprehension skills. Information in regard to our novels can be found on the unit overviews found on the **Year 3 Knox portal page**.

Writing and Representing

Students will identify, interpret, analyse and compose a variety of imaginative, informative and persuasive texts. They will present these in a range of media, including digital, oral and multi-modal texts.

John Larkin – The Knox boys are so blessed to have John Larkin a well published author, assisting all boys with their writing for an hour each week. He inspires great ideas and makes writing extremely enjoyable!

Speaking and Listening

Students will be engaged in rich and meaningful discussions and listening exercises revolving around literary texts, social issues, current affairs and our Knoxigations inquiry units. In addition to this, they will participate in formal and impromptu speeches and debates.

At the conclusion of Term 1, all Year 3 boys will present their 'Global Commemorations Expo to their peers and parents alike. This celebration of learning is one of the most challenging and exciting aspects of Year 3. The boys will explicitly learn all presentation skills and will express their understanding of

'Commemorating Significant events connects us to our past'. To gain confidence, boys will perform in pairs, in small groups and then to their class.

Reading and Viewing

Students will participate in an in-depth study of a variety of quality literature throughout the year. The themes and concepts behind each text will largely support our Knoxigations units and be selected based on the reading ability of the student. They will also have opportunities to build their understanding and inquiry skills through research opportunities and exposure to informational texts appropriate to their level. English will now be covered within our five domains so that the learning is meaningful and relevant for the boys.

2021 PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

We encourage all boys in Years K-6 to participate in the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge. More information will be available on the Knox Portal in late March.

ACCELERATED READER

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading program that Years 3 to 6 are using to support and monitor your son's reading practice. He will be able to go to the School Library and pick books at his own level and read them at his own pace. When finished, he will take a short online quiz to measure how much of the book he understood. The reading quizzes will be completed at school only during allocated DEAR (drop everything and read) time.

In order to determine his reading level, each term he will sit a Star Reading Test. This adaptive test uses multiple-choice questions and takes around 20 minutes to complete. AR includes over 30 000 books. Each book is assigned three scores to help your son make suitable choices. The librarian and classroom teacher will also be able to provide support.

Your son's teacher will record the ZPD (zone of proximal development) for your son in his diary. A list of levelled books from our School library is available on the Library page of the Knox Portal. The website <https://www.arbookfind.com.au/> may also be useful in finding books. Please see the information letter on the Knox portal Year 3 page for further information.

TECHNOLOGY

Our students benefit from authentic technology which is immersed in all our programs and activities. Safe use of technology is always a focus. Boys have had the technology guidelines explicitly explained and the consequences of unsafe use is outlined. Over the semester they will be involved in cyber safety and digital citizenship sessions. All Year 5 students have signed a Responsible Use of Technology Agreement.

KNOXIGATIONS

This year students will be involved in inquiry learning titled 'Knoxigations' across five domains: **Stories of the World and its People, Interconnected Systems, Sustainable Solutions, Tinkering Towards Tomorrow and Global Changemakers**. These lessons are transdisciplinary in nature as the tasks and activities will develop skills and understanding across a variety of curriculum areas, including historical, geographical and scientific.

Teachers will support the students through a guided inquiry cycle and parents will have the opportunity to celebrate their son's learning with them in the classroom.


Please see the Knoxigations outline on the following page.

In Year 3, we will be using the following timeline;

Stories of the World and Its People	Term 1 Week 1– Term 1 Week 8
Tinkering Towards Tomorrow	Term 1 Week 9 -Term 2 Week 5
Sustainable Solutions	Term 2 Weeks 5 – Term 3 Week 3
Interconnected Systems	Term 3 Week 4 - Term 4 Week 1
Global Connections	Term 4 Week 2 – Term 4 Week 8

An overview of our interdisciplinary Knoxigations units as well as the work we are covering within other subjects can be found under these headings on the **Knox portal Year 3 page**. These overviews will be available one week prior to our new unit.

KNOXIGATIONS OUTLINE 2021

		KNOXIGATIONS SCOPE AND SEQUENCE																																																
		TERM ONE										TERM TWO										TERM THREE										TERM FOUR																		
Term	TERM ONE										TERM TWO										TERM THREE										TERM FOUR																			
Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8									
DOMAIN	Stories of the World and its People										Tinkering Towards Tomorrow										Sustainable Solutions										Interconnected Systems										Global Changemakers									
BIG IDEA & INQUIRY FOCUS	<u>Big Idea</u> Commemorating significant events connects us to our past <u>Focus of Inquiry</u> Investigating significant events in Australia's history that we commemorate as a nation; reasons for commemorations; understanding how commemorations in Australia and around the world are the same and different.										<u>Big Idea</u> Purpose influences design <u>Focus of Inquiry</u> Connecting the purpose of products and spaces to their design.										<u>Big Idea</u> Energy innovations sustain our future <u>Focus of Inquiry</u> An investigation into the different energy forms and how they are captured; designing energy solutions for third world countries; energy in the arts.										<u>Big Idea</u> Rivers sustain life <u>Focus of Inquiry</u> All things are interconnected and impact upon each other; case study on the Murray Darling river system; independent case study on a particular global river system.										<u>Big Idea</u> Significant places should be conserved and protected <u>Focus of Inquiry</u> Our responsibility to protect significant sites; Macquarie Island case study; significant sites around the world; designing strategies to protect and conserve worldwide sites.									
CONCEPTS	Remembrance, symbolism, perspective										Innovation, form and function										Energy, form and function										Systems, interconnection										Responsibility, conservation									

CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING

In Year 3, we welcome you to join us in celebrating your sons learning. Please check the school Prep calendar for further details. These will also be mentioned in The Prep Magpie in the few weeks prior.

SPECIALIST AND SUPPORT STAFF FOR YEAR FIVE

Science	- Mrs Maria Thomas -Miss Georgina Ridehaigh	thomasm@knox.nsw.edu.au ridehaighg@knox.nsw.edu.au
PDHealth	- Ms. Bonnie McDonald	Mcdonaldb@knox.nsw.edu.au
PE practical	-Mr Adrian Van Bussell	vanbussella@knox.nsw.edu.au
Music	- Mr Ashley George -Mrs Beck Morris	georgea@knox.nsw.edu.au morrisk@knox.nsw.edu.au
Visual Arts	- Ms. Alex LeCouter -Mrs Marina Glascott	lecouter@knox.nsw.edu.au glascottm@knox.nsw.edu.au
Japanese	- Mr Caleb Nova -Mrs Kirsty Henry	novac@knox.nsw.edu.au henryk@knox.nsw.edu.au
Library	- Mrs Jo Wheatley	wheatleyj@knox.nsw.edu.au
WLF	- Mrs Anna Harding	hardinga@knox.nsw.edu.au
Literacy Support	- Mrs Alison Grant	granta@knox.nsw.edu.au

HOMEWORK AND STUDY HABITS

- Maximum 30 minutes per night.
- 15 min reading to be logged into the school diary. We would recommend listening to your son reading aloud at least once a week.
If reading is difficult, audiobooks are a good option to expose the boys to rich literature.
- Homework is to be a shared and positive experience.
- Home lesson diary is to be signed each night by a parent.
- No weekend or holiday homework expected.
- Please communicate any problems to class teacher through the diary.

Homework will be due on the **Friday** each fortnight.

Year 3 students are expected to plan their homework schedule to allow time for extra-curricular activities (eg. music tuition, swimming training, gymnastics) and homework obligations to be met. This may mean additional time being dedicated to homework on some occasions. It is anticipated that students will plan ahead in these matters to avoid being unable to present work at school when it is required.

If at any stage your son is unable to complete homework and there is a reasonable excuse, please simply write a note in his diary to excuse him.

At this stage homework is standard. Please see your teacher if it is too difficult or too easy for your son. We expect to modify homework to suit individual needs.

YEAR THREE SERVICE LEARNING- THE DISH

The DISH is the service-learning action project that Year Three are responsible for organising and implementing. We work in partnership with St John's Uniting Church, Wahroonga to provide food to the people in need. This action project provides us with an opportunity to support our local community and make a difference to the lives of others. It allows the boys to demonstrate compassion in action and provide a simple act of kindness.

What do you have to do?

We begin service in Week 5 with 3R providing meals. Boys will be rostered on a week to:

1. Select a meal such as a casserole, soup or curry
2. Writing down the ingredients
3. Assist with the shopping
4. Assist with the preparation of the meal
5. Bring the meal to school on the Friday morning of the week you're rostered.

These meals will then be collected by 'The Dish' van and served to the homeless in the Hornsby area on a set Friday evening.

More information on what food is required, how much and how the food is packaged will arrive home closer to the date.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION AND EXCURSIONS

Term 1

Year 3 Outdoor Education Camp (2 days 18-19 March)

BIRTHDAYS

We love to celebrate birthdays. When bringing food to school, please be aware of the fact that there are students in our year with **severe anaphylactic reactions** to things such as peanuts and eggs so please check the contents of food packets. Party size bars are an easy option.

If your son has an allergy, it might be a good idea to provide a little treat for him to have when birthdays are celebrated so that he doesn't feel left out and to help prevent the risk of a reaction.

Covid-19 Update:

Please note that during the Covid-19 pandemic, **only individually wrapped and commercially packaged goods** are to be brought in to celebrate students' birthdays.

We are more than happy to arrange a meeting with you at any point. As a team, we welcome communication between parents and our school.

Many thanks,

The Year 3 Team