



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to classroom 6! We hope that together we can provide a stimulating and enjoyable year of learning at Gingin District High School. It is already going to be a busy term with **swimming lessons** in weeks 2 and 3, the **Faction swimming carnival** and **school photos** in week 5, the **ANZAC service** on the last day of school and don't forget the **Labour Day public holiday** (Mon 6th March)! Below is an outline of what is planned for the Year 3 students this term.

CURRICULUM

Timetable:

Please find the Timetable attached. Mrs Gail Corrans will be teaching every Monday and Miss Lindsey Gilchrist will be teaching Tuesdays to Fridays. Please note that on Monday afternoons it will rotate between Art and Health lessons.

Literacy Blocks:

We will hold 3 Literacy Blocks (uninterrupted 2 hour blocks of literary instruction) every week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Tasks and texts are selected to suit the learning needs of the differentiated groups and are explicitly presented in a learning session; follow-up tasks are directly linked to the strategy being targeted in the session. Learning across other areas is also embedded in these sessions, so if a writing task relates to a topic in History or Science it may be covered in a Literacy Block. Literacy Blocks target skills and strategies with the aim of improving performance in reading and writing. We will be looking at persuasive and narrative texts in writing this term, in order to prepare the Year 3's for their NAPLAN tests early in Term 2. Students are encouraged to continue reading at home using their Home Reader books to track their journey. We check the Home Reader books every Friday, so please ensure your student brings them in on that day.

Mathematics:

Miss Gilchrist will teach Number & Algebra and Chance & Probability and Mrs Corrans will teach the Measurement & Geometry aspects of the curriculum on Mondays. This term we look at Number Patterns, Place Value, numbers up to 10 000, chance experiments and outcomes, learning to tell the time at five minute intervals, introducing kilograms to measure weight, litres to measure capacity and comparing lengths using centimetres and metres.

Society & Environment:

Miss Gilchrist will be teaching Geography this semester. We will be looking at Australia's states and territories, capital cities, neighbouring countries, natural and man-made features and climate zones. The students will also be researching Western Australia's major cities and regional centres.

Science:

Mrs Anderson will be teaching Physical Sciences this term on Tuesdays. The students will be learning about how heat can be produced in different ways and how it can move from one object to another.

Health:

Mrs Corrans will teach the personal and social capabilities that foster resilience and wellbeing for the students when they are faced with challenges and choices. The students will learn skills and attitudes for self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness and social management.

Physical Education:

It is important that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear on the days they are participating in sport, as well as bringing a hat and water bottle. Please note that if your child is unable to participate in sport a signed note needs to be provided. Mr Chipchase will teach the students Physical Education on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with Middle Sport on Mondays. Please note: Middle Sport classes are postponed until after swimming lessons, however the Physical Education program will run as normal.

Hat Policy:

GDHS has a year round hat policy which means that each student must have the Gingin DHS hat in order to participate in Physical Education, Middle Sport, recess and lunch all year round.

Library:

Our library session will be on a Friday. These sessions are important as this is one of the only times the students have the opportunity to borrow books. Please make sure your child brings their library bag every Thursday. Library bags can be purchased from the school uniform shop in faction colours. Please note: the Library sessions will not start until after swimming lessons (Week 4).

Homework Requirements:

This term, students will have fortnightly **spelling words** and **home reading** to complete at home after swimming. The students will receive 5 x sight words (**bolded**) with each spelling list this term. These commonly used sight words have been practised verbally in the classroom (as well as being displayed), however it is also important that your child knows how to spell them. These 5 x sight words will be included in every fortnightly spelling test. The list might total 15 words but it may be only 3 – 5 words that your child learns each night. This will make the task manageable and should only take 10 minutes to learn. The students can pick an activity from the 'Spelling Menu' to make learning their spelling words more enjoyable. Students can use their 'Home Revision' book for spelling activities. Please note: The spelling program will begin after swimming lessons.

Home-reading should not be stressful and texts are intended to be at the level of the reader. It is more enjoyable if someone at home listens and interacts by asking questions to ensure an understanding of what is read. It is hoped children will find interesting words to bring to school to share for our 'Word of the day' wall or even share a part of a book they enjoyed, (or a poem or cartoon). Please use the Home Reading for your student to track their journey.

Tins and Stationery

The students have been asked to bring in a decorated tin. The tin will be put on their desk each day and hold the stationery that they use the most (such as pencils). The rest of their stationery will be put into their pencil cases.

The best tins to use are canned fruit / Milo tins. Please feel free to decorate them in any way you want (ie. stickers / material / contact paper). Tins can be plastic / aluminium – just make sure there are no sharp edges.

If you have spare stationery at home, please feel free to send it in as I have a box to keep it. That way the students can grab it when they run out!

Classroom Management:

We follow the whole primary school reward program using CRTR Cards and Goldies.

6 x CRTR Cards = 1 Goldie

6 x Goldies = merit certificate at appropriate level.

Classroom behaviour is managed using CRTR Cards and Goldies as rewards.

In our classroom there is a 'Choice Chart' which visually shows whether a student is making good choices or whether they need to rethink their next choice. The chart starts with **Green** (*'I made good choices today'*) and makes its way through **Yellow** (*'My next choice will be better'*) down to **Red** (*'I need to re-think my choices'*). As part of the restorative practise for negative choice making, if your child ends up on 'Red' they will need to speak about their choice during 'Reflection Circle' with the rest of the class. They will also have a conference with me, where we will discuss the behaviour(s) that led to it and reflect on how they can be strong and take charge of their behaviour. The student will help me to complete a 'Behaviour Reflection Sheet,' which will be sent home to be read, discussed and signed by a parent or carer. It is the student's responsibility to return this signed sheet to me on the *next school day* otherwise a logical consequence (and parent/carer phone call) will occur.

- Green level – all students begin the day at this level.
- Yellow level – a warning if a student persists with their misbehaviour
- Red level – student still persists with poor behaviour and at this level will have to speak about their choices during Reflection Circle and during a 1:1 conference with me. They also have to have referral to administration (Deputy Principal) or will require a meeting with the parent/guardian.

School Term Vacation:

If you are planning a holiday during the school term it is required to contact the Principal for him to approve it. If it is not approved by the Principal it will appear in the absence system as an 'unapproved holiday.' You can contact the Principal either by phone 9575 5300 or we can pass on a written note for you.

School Diaries

School diaries will be sent home every night. Please ensure your child is bringing their diary to school every day and that you check it daily for messages. Please let your child know if there's a note for us as we may not be able to check the diaries daily, and the students have been instructed to show us any communication.

Parent Volunteers:

We are always looking for help in the classroom! If you are available to help out in the classroom for student reading or just in general, then please let us know. Your support will be greatly appreciated!

Teacher Contact Details:

In an effort to ensure we are on the same page regarding your child's learning, we are available for meetings with you during our D.O.T.T times or immediately after school. **To organise a meeting (or for any general concerns or queries) please contact us via your child's diary or the school phone number 9575 5300.**

We will have a better chance of gaining optimum results when teachers, parents and students all work together in a supportive working environment. We looked forward to a great year with you and your child!

Miss Lindsey Gilchrist & Mrs Gail Corrans
Room 6 Teachers.