

YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2026

WELCOME

Welcome to Year 4 2026!

This year Ms Fox and Mrs Maguire are your year 4 teachers 😊 We would like to welcome new and returning students to Walkerston State School for Year 4. We have a fun filled, packed year ahead of us full of fun, laughter and learning.

In this newsletter, you will find the learning focuses for term 1 and the timetable for specialist lessons. If you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us via email or stop into the classroom before or after school hours. Send us an email to book in a time to ensure we make ourselves available.

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Year 4 Class Novel – 1985 Do you Dare? Eureka Boys

- Reading – Students will read, view, and comprehend a broad range of imaginative texts along with targeted support with our term novel. These texts allow students to explore different formats and styles of writing along with identifying and analysing how literary devices (such as metaphors, similes, personification, and alliteration) and word play (such as puns, rhyme, and rhythm) are used to shape meaning and enhance texts.
- Writing and Spelling – throughout the unit, students will identify, develop and practice their handwriting and spelling skills in each subject area with a focus on syntax (sentences structure), phonological spelling strategies, etymology (word origins), morphology (eg. prefixes, suffixes and plurals), and how they have influenced word meanings.
- Speaking and Listening Assessment – The unit assessment will measure students' ability to meaningfully contribute to collaborative discussions, summarise key elements of a text/film and present their opinions in a clear and engaging manner.

SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

TUES	HPE THE ARTS	THURS	LIBRARY HPE THE ARTS
WED	4F HPE 4F – DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES		4M – DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES
			4M – HPE

MATHS

In this unit, Year 4 students will deepen their understanding of fractions, place value, and data representation, while developing key mathematical skills to engage with concepts in geometry and statistics. The following outlines the main areas of focus:

- o Fractions and Decimals
- o Angles and Geometry
- o Grid References and Symmetry
- o Data Representation and Statistical Investigations

ENGLISH

Science

Students will identify roles of organisms and learn how to create a simple model of a food chain. Students will also identify and predict the effect of predators or the removal of food sources and the impacts or effects on other living things in the environment. Students will use visuals, labels and arrows to identify interactions of consumers, producers and decomposers and use scientific vocabulary to communicate their ideas.



HASS

In this unit, students will sequence events to describe the diversity of experiences of people in Australia prior to and following 1788. Students will also look at the diversity of experiences of people including first Nation Australians, their social organisation and their continuous connection to Country/Place. Students will identify the events following the arrival of the first fleet, and describe how this was viewed by First Nations. Lastly, students will describe the effect of colonisation on people and the environment and how we can now honour and respect both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

The Arts

Music, Dance, Drama and Media are taught by our Specialist Music teacher Miss Kay. This semester we are focusing on Drama and Music split over 2 x30 minute lessons a week.

In the Music room students are expected to be safe (by using inside voices, staying within boundaries set, only using equipment for its intended purpose), be respectful (by taking turns, communicating with kind language and following instructions) and have a go (attempt all activities).

Drama – Tuesday

In our drama unit this year we aim to develop students':

- confidence and self-esteem and
- create a sense of curiosity, enjoyment and achievement through exploring and playing roles, and imagining situations
- knowledge and understanding in controlling the elements of drama

This term students will explore the elements of Drama and be able to apply them to a scripted version of the First Nations dreamtime story of Tiddalick. Students will experiment performing the script with puppets and compare to Multimedia performance shown.

Music – Thursday

In our Music unit this year we aim to develop students':

- confidence to be thoughtful, skilful and informed musicians
- knowledge and skills for listening with intent and purpose, composing and performing
- understanding of music as an aural art form as they acquire skills to become independent music learners

This term students will continue to explore the elements of music by working in an ensemble to perform an American Folk Song "The Canoe Song". Students will learn parts (melody, harmony, rhythmic ostinato, accompaniment ostinato, beat) on different musical instruments through reading notations and exploring traditional learning styles of auditory learning.

Classroom Management

The weather is quite hot at the moment. Please send your child with a water bottle to stay hydrated in class this also keeps them in the classroom rather than taking breaks to get a drink.

The air conditioning can get a bit cold in parts of the classroom. Your child may bring in a black light jumper for those times it gets chilly.

Digital Technology

This year Technology will be taught by Noel Reynolds.

Health and PE

Health and Physical Education are taught by our Specialist HPE teacher Mr Maxwell. This semester we are focusing on PE split over 2x 30-minute lessons and health with its own 30-minute session (total of 1.5hrs) In PE lessons students are expected to be safe (by following instructions and staying within boundaries set), be respectful (by taking turns, communicating with kind language and following instructions) always having a go (attempt all activities). PE: Tuesdays and Wednesdays - Students will be focusing on building their strength through a variety of different activities: Push-ups/ Planks/ Vertical low jumps/ Star jumps / Burpees/ Mountain climbs/ Elastic band training/ Skipping rope Health: Thursdays - In our health unit we aim to develop students' relationships with others through the respectful relationship program. Topics include Stereotypes/Human rights/Life challenges

HOMEWORK

Homework will be sent home on Monday's and due back on Friday for whole class marking. Students are also strongly encouraged to read for 15 minutes a day at home. Your child will be contributing to a safe and respectful classroom environment by acknowledging the positive behaviour of others and celebrating their own qualities. Home readers are not sent home in Year 4. However, your child will bring home 1 school library book. You can also access SORA and online catalogue of books you can access at home.

Behaviour Management

Our school has adopted 'The Zones of Regulation'. The Zones of Regulation is a comprehensive, research-based framework that builds emotional and behavioural regulation skills. Feelings are complicated. They come in different sizes, intensities, and levels of energy that are unique within our brains and bodies. To make them easier to talk about, think about, and regulate, The Zones of Regulation organizes our feelings, states of alertness, and energy levels into four coloured Zones – Blue, Green, Yellow, and Red.

The simple, common language and visual structure of The Zones of Regulation helps make the complex skill of regulation more concrete for learners and those who support them. We learn to regulate our Zones to meet our goals and task demands, as well as support our overall well-being.

Adopting and implementing the zones at home embeds and strengthens the skills children learn at school.

