****Dear Parents and Carers,

3/4P parent information

I am excited to be teaching your children this year in 3/4P and am looking forward to seeing them grow both academically and emotionally during our time together.

As we begin the year, I would like to ensure that students are fully prepared for all class activities. Below is the list of items that your child will need to bring to school.

* **Headphones:** These are kept in the classroom for your child to use with computers and iPads
* **Pencils:** your child should bring their **own small pencil case** with 2 HB pencils, coloured pencils and an enclosed sharpener and an eraser.
* **Textas**
* **Highlighter**
* **Whiteboard marker**
* **Artline pen**.
* **Glue stick**
* **Plastic envelope**
* **Display folder**
* **Library bag** every **Monday**
* **Hat**
* **Water bottle:** please send a **labelled** water bottle for your child to keep in the classroom for use during class time.
* **A box of tissues :** to supplement our class supply
* **Hand wash and sanitiser** to be used in the classroom would be greatly appreciated

**As** children gain their **pen license** they will need **2 blue and 1 red** ballpoint pen**.**

**Please** ensure all your child’s items are **labelled.**

**Homework**Department of Education guidelines state that homework is **optional.** There will be no rewards for completing homework and no punishment for not completing homework.

The role of homework is to revise, review and consolidate learning already covered in the classroom. It is not intended to teach new concepts or provide extension for students.

Homework will be sent home on Monday. Homework tasks will generally include weekly spelling revision activities as well as English and Mathematics tasks. I completely understand how busy family life can be and do not expect that homework should create an additional burden. Your family’s decision regarding homework will be fully supported.

**Home reading**Students are encouraged to read for at least ten minutes every night.

 **Library**Library for 3/4P is held each **Monday.** Please ensure your child brings their library bag and books on this day. Regular borrowing of books is encouraged to complement our home reading program.

**Notes and Money**Any money that needs to be sent into school must go directly to the school office and should be posted into the slot in the bench at reception. Money, together with permission notes, should be placed in an envelope labelled with your child’s name, class and the name of event or program being paid for. In some circumstances, payments can be made online. Payment options will be indicated on each individual note.

Any other notes that do not involve money can be given directly to me or placed on my desk before or during school hours.

**Crunch and Sip**Each day the children are required to bring fruit or vegetables and water for ‘Crunch and Sip’ sessions held during the first two hours of the day. These sessions give the students a short fruit and drink break and allow them to refuel. I usually read them our class novel at this time. Suitable foods include: fresh fruit, dried fruit, vegetables. Water is a suitable choice for drinking.

**Food and Allergies**At different times throughout the year, the children may participate in cooking lessons. Food may also occasionally be part of other lessons. It is therefore important that you inform me of any known allergies your child may have.

Each day, students have ten minutes to eat their recess under the COLA. Lunch is eaten in the COLA for ten minutes before play time. Students are discouraged from sharing their food and canteen money with one another.

Please remember NEPS is a **nut free school**.

**School sport**

Primary sport is held on Fridays. This term a small group of students will be travelling to Nobby’s beach to take part in surfing lessons. The majority of Stage 2 will be walking to Newcastle beach to participate in beach activities. Please ensure your child has sunscreen, a hat and a water bottle.

**Communication**Strong parent-teacher communication is something that I highly value as a teacher. I try my best to make myself available to parents both before and after school and make parents feel welcome in my classroom. Mornings however, are a busier time for me and I apologise if I am not always available. After school I aim to greet parents and am often able to discuss any queries you may have at this time.

Please arrange an appointment with me at a convenient time if you wish to discuss any aspects about your child’s schooling in greater detail. This ensures that your queries are addressed privately and with minimal interruptions.

Additionally, don’t hesitate to contact me via email if this method is more convenient.

**Helen.powell2@det.nsw.edu.au**

Please feel free to speak to me at any time if you have any further questions or concerns.

I am excited about all the wonderful things we will be doing in 3/4P! It’s going to be a great year!

Kind regards,

Helen Powell