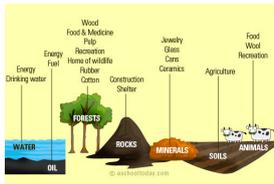# Pod 3 Friday Classroom Newsletter

Hello to the parents/care-givers of students in Pod 3. It is good to see you all looking refreshed after the holidays and ready for a new school year. This is just a short run through of what will be happening in Pod 3 on Fridays.
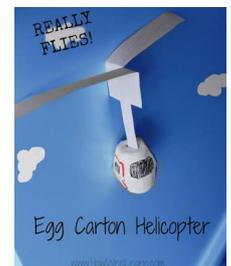
Fridays are a STEM day for the students in Pod 3. In the classroom we begin the day with a literacy block and in the afternoon we do some learning in the areas of science and technology with maths learning incorporated into our tasks. Some of our learning is individual and some involves working with a partner or small group on project-based tasks.

English:- We will be beginning our day with reading tasks which will involve students working on fluency, accuracy and comprehension skills. Written language will involve learning about how to write procedures, expositions and arguments. We will also be looking at editing our work and expanding simple sentences into complex sentences as well as use of punctuation and grammar.

Science:- We are beginning the year by learning about the area of Earth and Space Science. The topic for term 1 is Earth's Resources where we will be finding out about what are the Earth's resources, how they are used and how we can conserve them for the future.

STEM:- Term 1 will incorporate leaning about robotics and the Stem unit Air in Action. In Robotics we will be using Bee-bots to negotiate mazes and will be writing the coded information to follow to complete the maze they design. In Air in Action we will look at how the forces of push and pull allow objects to fly. We will be finding out about helicopters, parachutes and balloon rockets with students designing and making their own form of air transport. STEM lessons will also involve math tasks linked to measurement, number and data.

Egg Carton Helicopter

Math:- We will be undertaking learning in number, measurement, data and problem solving tasks, which will also be linked to the unit we are studying in STEM.

CPC:- I have training in delivering the Child Protection Curriculum and will be teaching students about keeping themselves safe throughout the term. This term we will look at feelings, safety and unsafe situations and emergencies. We will do this by looking at rules and why we have them, feelings associated with unsafe situations and emergency situations.

Computers:- We have computer after recess on Fridays and will use this time to create data tables for our STEM tasks, to type up our best work to put on display, for research into learning topics, to reinforce math learning and to learn about coding. We will also learn how to use various types of software for presenting project work and 'good' copies of our written work.

Behaviour:- I will be using class dojo as a behaviour management tool in the classroom to award points for positive behaviours in Pod 3. Parents are also able to use our class dojo as a communication tool between home and school by using their parent code to connect to as a parent to class dojo. Alongside this we will use 'Blurt Beans' to encourage students to keep learning interruptions to a minimum and personal behaviour charts to remind students to think about what they are doing in the classroom to provide a safe learning space for themselves and each other. Students have the opportunity to receive both individual and whole class rewards for showing positive learning behaviours in the classroom.

It is hoped that I will soon have the See-saw app up and running on class iPads and I am planning to use this as a way for parents to interact with what is happening in the classroom as well as a way for students to publish work which parents can view. Parents will be sent a note to explain how this works when the app is up and running.

Angela Princi