Inquiry: During this term Our Inquiry unit will focus on “Life under the Sea”. The students will investigate the factors which affect the survival of organisms living in the sea. They will also investigate human intervention in marine ecosystems, such as disposal of waste and rubbish and how it affects the survival of living things. We will be visiting the aquarium to learn about the habitats, common features of animals, classification, life cycles and food chains of various marine and freshwater creatures.

Reading: Our students are enjoying reading their ‘good fit’ books in our CAFÉ reading program. This term some of our reading strategies include: summarising information and finding the main idea, cross checking, expanding their vocabulary (looking for interesting and unusual words) making predictions, inferences and imaginary. It is important that all students read at home every night.

Writing: The focus this term is on ‘Informative narratives’ using descriptive language, factual information and action verbs and ‘Information Reports’ – to present information that classifies living or non-living things. The children will be learning how to compose these text types. We will be working on the structure and language of transactional letter writing. They will also be continuing their Writer’s Notebook, using this for their own free choice writing topics. The students will: plan, draft, edit, and publish their written pieces.
**Spelling:** Students will be using topic word lists, phonic word lists and personal word lists in their class and homework spelling tasks. A variety of spelling strategies such as looking at words, breaking words into syllables, teaching spelling rules, will be used to encourage correct spelling.

**Maths:** During this term we will focus on revising multiplication, fractions, and decimals to tenths and hundredths and revise place value of decimals and whole numbers. We will continue to work on division. Please help your child to practise the timetables. Other areas of focus this term will be measurement of perimeter and area, identifying and measuring angles, learning to read maps, compass direction and grids.

The students will also be completing a Maths Investigation Project of their own choice in class and at home.

**Cooking:** During the term, we will participate in cooking activities, working in groups and preparing food together. This is a fun and practical way of reading and following the steps of recipes and writing about the experiences. This also enables students to reinforce their maths skills. They will estimate, measure, weigh, use timers and check temperature.

**Homework:** All students have a writing, reading, spelling and maths task to complete each week.

**Important dates for Term 4**

Footsteps Lessons- 28\(^{th}\) October, 11\(^{th}\), 18\(^{th}\), 25\(^{th}\), of November, 2\(^{nd}\) December
Footsteps Concert-10\(^{th}\) December, 6 – 7:30pm

Swimming Lessons- 11\(^{th}\), 12\(^{th}\), 18\(^{th}\), 19\(^{th}\), 25\(^{th}\), 26\(^{th}\) of November

End of term excursion to Insportz Knox, Wednesday 17\(^{th}\) December