At the end of 2006, the 3/4 Learning Team recognised a need to improve student engagement amongst the grade 3/4 students. To improve student learning outcomes, we decided that we needed to improve engagement and motivation and we therefore investigated the Inquiry Based Learning model to facilitate this.

Throughout 2007 and 2008, the grade 3/4 Learning team has been focusing on Inquiry Based Learning which is a process that enables students to develop more ownership of their learning as they can form their own questions about a topic and then explore the answers. Students become problem solvers and are taught a variety of ways to sort the information and present it. Students are also taught to reflect on what they have learnt and look at where they need to go next with their learning.

This term students are exploring the question "What effect did the gold rush have on Bendigo?" Students are working in teams to brainstorm what they know about gold, what they want to know, how they will find their answers and then to research this. They then work together to sort the information and present this to the class, sharing ideas and learning from each other. Students will also be involved in designing, creating and evaluating a model to present to the class.