

Thursday 14th February 2019

5/6 Overview Term One

Dear Parents,



Welcome back to the new year, it will be both a busy and exciting term. For the first two weeks of the year we are implementing our Start Up program which develops confidence, respect and a positive learning environment for all. Alongside this we are implementing our literacy and numeracy programs. In our learning area students are exploring our school values: Respect, Resilience and Love of Learning.

Smooth start:

Students are encouraged to come into the classroom at 8:50am, to unpack their bag, hand in notices or money and change their reader before the bell. This allows students to be prepared and start their learning promptly at 9am each day. Parents are also welcome to meet with the teachers before school as well.

Nude food:

Students are given time to eat their morning tea and lunch inside. This helps reduce the amount of waste that is often left in the playground and minimises the risk of allergic reactions. Students are only permitted to eat 'nude food' (such as fruit that has been peeled or a sandwich without wrapping paper) in the piazza. Teachers will ensure that students are given adequate time to eat before they go out to play.

Sleep:

It is important that students are coming to school with a good night's sleep. A number of students in our area have said they go to bed late and often play on their tablet/ipad/electronic equipment before sleep. Scientific studies have shown that using an electronic device up to two hours before bed can reduce the quality of sleep. We encourage you as parents to ensure your child is in to bed by 8.30pm by the latest.

Communication Processes:

The 5/6 teaching team understand the importance of open communication and welcome the opportunity to clarify and discuss any concerns families may have. Contact us via Compass, phone call or simply via a message written in your child's diary. We will endeavour to respond to your requests as soon as possible. We are available to have pre-arranged meetings in person when the need arises.

Waratah Beach Camp:

Students are excited to be going to the Waratah Beach Camp on Monday 25th till Wednesday 27th February. This camp is located near Wilsons Promontory. The camp offers a range of activities such as the flying fish, caterpillar crawl, beach volleyball, going to Wilson Promontory and Squeaky Beach. Both the grade 5/6 teachers (Tegan and Erika) will be attending the camp as well as Drew El Moussalli and Candice Vanzin. A program for non-campers will be put into place and these students are expected to attend school on these days.

Key Learning Areas:

Maths: Students will investigate place value, number patterns with numbers up to a million and beyond. They will be investigating when adding odd and even numbers what the outcome will be regardless of the place value. They will also learn how to add and subtract large numbers with regrouping processes. Students will also focus on measurement specifically in time and length. Maths fluency games will be conducted at the start of every lesson. This will ensure students have mastered basic number facts that will assist all maths learning.

Literacy: The 5/6 students will explore specific text types such as narrative and persuasive writing and we will be explicitly teaching the various structures within these genres. Students will continue to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. During reading groups, students will learn about how predictions help us understand a text. Students will also investigate how making connections help us associate with the text in order to comprehend. They will also use a range of strategies to discover and solve new or unknown words.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): We will continue to develop our students understanding of Social and Emotional Learning using the Berry Street Educational Model and Respectful Relationships. Students will learn to develop the skills to manage their emotions, how to relate to others, resolving conflict and how to feel positive about themselves. This term we will be focusing on character strengths, discover what values they hold and how our students can work as a community by sharing common values.

Inquiry: The Inquiry focus for grade 5/6 students this term is Around the World. Students will be researching what makes the world special, investigate the location, land formations and environmental features of the school camp location. Our school camp to Waratah Bay will complement our geography inquiry as students will be visiting places they investigated on maps through their research. We will also be learning about Digital technologies. We have a fantastic opportunity this term where Melbourne City soccer club will be teaching our 5/6 students how to build and code a robots to perform in groups.

Home Learning Expectations:

Homework is provided each week. Your child will be expected to complete and submit their home learning by Friday every week. Students are expected to read daily, learn set spelling words and complete a number problem each week. It is vital for students to read daily and write a sentence or two about the book they are reading in their diary. We ask that parents sign their child's diary so teachers can see that students are reading daily.

Sport:

Grades 3-6 students are involved in training sessions to develop the necessary skills for participation in the inter-school Athletics Sports at Meadowglen Athletics Stadium on Tuesday March 5th. Students will practice events such as discus, shotput, high jump, long jump, relay running, short distance sprints, long distance runs, triple jump, tunnel ball and crossball.

P.E: (Drew El Moussalli)

During Term One the 5/6 students students will be involved in an athletics program. Running, jumping and throwing activities will be the main focus, practising for events such as discus, shot put and long jump. The whole school athletics day will be held on Tuesday the 19th of February. Please don't forget that hats are required for P.E. lessons this term.

Visual and Performing Arts: (Lisa Gardiner)

This term, year 5/6 students will take part in a collaborative project organised by the City of Darebin. They will design play equipment for D.R Atkinson Reserve, Reservoir. Artist- Ju-Yuen Chew will facilitate workshops whereby students will create 2D and 3D artworks suited to the play space. In the last half of term, students will explore perspective drawing skills and techniques.

Italian: (Candice Vanzin)

Throughout the term, students will continue to explore a variety of communicative language activities to continue building on everyday Italian conversational skills. Year 5/6 students will develop a better understanding of Italian grammatical rules, such as use of masculine, feminine, plural and singular articles. Students will engage in letter writing to a pen pal from another school in Italian that will be continued throughout the year.

Uniform Expectations:

Term 1 is a Sunsmart term and **all students must wear a school hat** for all outdoor activities. Students who do not have their school hat cannot participate in outdoor activities, which includes outside PE lessons as well as recess and lunch breaks. Complete school uniform is expected to be worn at all times.

Technology Agreement:

In class students have read, discussed and agreed to the Safe Use of Technology Agreement. This agreement covers use of all learning technologies at school including Laptops, tablets, digital cameras, interactive whiteboards and notebooks. This agreement has come about so that students realise that using technology comes with responsibilities, to help students to understand why we use technology at school and to help students feel safe from cyber-bullying when using technology. The agreement is to be read by both students and parents and signed by students and parents. This agreement **must** be returned to school promptly in order for your child to continue to use learning technologies.

Kind regards,

Erika Hopcraft

Tegan Veitch

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