

## Curriculum Newsletter – Yr 6 Team

### Term 2 - 2023

Welcome back to term 2 of 2023. The first term started well with all students settling in and enjoying their new classes.



#### **Literacy**

This term in our Literacy program, students will continue to focus on developing their comprehension skills through predicting, visualising, clarifying, questioning and summarizing. Students will work on identifying textual features used in different texts and a number of students will work on developing the skills they need to undertake reciprocal reading.

In writing, students will be developing the skills they need to plan, draft, edit and publish their writing, focusing on persuasive and information writing styles. They will be focusing on text structure and organisation, creating literature and expressing and developing ideas. Students will be using the '7 Steps of Writing' program to explore a variety of writing styles and genres, including persuasive and narrative writings. Spelling will continue to be a focus throughout 2023 and will remain a focus of writing sessions.

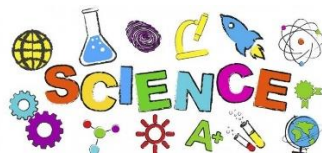


#### **Numeracy**

During this term in Numeracy, students will continue to undertake a holistic approach to their numeracy lessons. They will receive a variety of targeted lessons derived from pre-tests they complete before a unit of work is undertaken. Students will be focusing on Order of Operations, Probability, Geometry and Area and Volume.

For the remainder of the year, selected students will be involved in the Math Olympiad program.

Math Olympiad contests aim to foster an interest in math and improve the mathematical skills of participants through team-based competitions. They exist on the national and international levels for students in grades 4 through 12.



### **Science**

This term student will be investigating what makes things change and what affects how fast they change? They will investigate why some things burn more fiercely, rust more quickly or smell more strongly? They will understand why and how substances change, and how this has led to advances in everything from food preservation to fire control.

The *Change detective's* unit provides opportunities for students to explore melting, evaporating, dissolving, burning and chemical reactions. Students' understanding of the factors that influence the rate of change will be developed through hands-on activities and student-planned investigations. Students become detectives who identify and explain physical and chemical changes in everyday materials.

### **Specialist reports**

#### **Japanese – Miyuki Worth**

##### **Grade 6 – The traditional sports in Japan/The Japanese cultural project**

The Grade Six students will be exploring Sumo wrestling and other traditional sports in Japan. For the cultural project, they are going to research/investigate their choice of a traditional Japanese sport (Kendo, Karate, Judo, kyuudo and Sumo) and will create an informative poster. The poster will include the description of the sport such as general information, the equipment, outfit, rules etc. The short sentences to describe the sport will be written on a poster in Japanese. Students will review the numbers in kanji.

#### **Physical Education – Tom Digby**

This term students will participate in a beginners Gymnastics program. This unit will focus on different aspects of Gymnastics such as static shapes, landings, spring, swing, and rotation. Learning Gymnastics aims to improve flexibility, strength, coordination, and balance. This term students will also participate in Fitness Testing and will be recording their results. Fitness testing provides students with opportunities to participate in and develop the knowledge, skills and understanding of physical activity, and how this contributes to students' personal development of health-related and skill-related components of fitness.

#### **Art – Caroline Nott**

This term the Five /Six children will continue their look at the street art of Keith Haring. They will continue through the design process and use peer critiquing to improve their artwork and the artwork of their peers. The final design will be completed using mineral paper and paint markers. They will then create drawings on recycled boxes, that challenges them to use an unusual starting shape.

### **Music – Lisa Wood**

During Term Two, the Grade 6 students will be using tuned percussion instruments to further develop their understanding of beat, rhythm and pitch. They will use their knowledge of music notation to compose and play their own music. They will also explore pitch and its notation on the music staff.

### **STEM – Leanne Sammut**

During Term 2, students will be focusing on the Chemical Sciences. Students will learn about chemical and physical changes and how to differentiate between the two. The properties of matter will be explored, for example students will test materials for 'solubility in water' and 'density compared to water'. Students will conduct experiments to determine the effect of heat on materials in their different states.

### **EAL – Liz Lange**

During Term Two, the EAL students will continue to develop their communication skills by being encouraged to express their views and opinions and using basic strategies to initiate and sustain simple conversations in English. For Reading they will be focusing on decoding, predicting, making connections, answering literal questions and inferring about a character's feelings, motives and actions. In Writing this term, the students are given support to communicate their ideas, events and experiences and write simple texts, such as, an information report and narratives. We will be continuing to focus on editing and they will be developing their vocabulary by creating category lists and researching facts.

### **ABSENCES AND LATENESS**

#### **EVERY DAY COUNTS! - IT'S COOL TO COME TO SCHOOL!**

If your child is going to be absent from school, please advise the school as soon as possible. We will now send out an SMS to inform parents and caregivers about student absence. If your child is late to school, please ensure they go straight to the office, as some will go directly to their Specialist class and you may receive an SMS, so please talk to your child about the importance of reporting to the office if they are late!!

**Department of Education policy states that if a child is absent from school parents/carers must explain the absence. A note/email or a phone call explaining the absence is acceptable. Please do not write the note in your child's diary as this note needs to be on a separate sheet of paper so it is kept at the school as a record of absence.**

### **School uniform**

Please discuss with your child the importance of wearing the correct uniform to school. Jewellery - Stud earrings, sleepers and watches are permitted. For safety, other jewellery must not be worn i.e: bracelets or necklaces, unless worn for religious or cultural purposes. To help prevent the spread of head lice we ask students to tie up their shoulder length or longer hair. Please name all articles of clothing as this will assist in children reclaiming them if lost. If your child is out of uniform please send along a note informing your child's teacher of the reason. The Year 6 Students have now received their Grade Six jumpers, how amazing do they look!

### **SMART Goals**

Students will be receiving individual learning goals known as SMART Goals. The goals are set as a result of conferencing sessions between the teacher and student. Your child will have at least 3 goals; one for reading, writing and number. These goals will be sent home in the next week or two and they will be revised on a regular basis. New goals will continually be set throughout the term. The conferenced SMART Goals will be coming home on a blue sheet of paper in your child's homework book. Please ensure you chat to your child about their special goals and practise them at home.

### **Homework**

Homework for term one will be issued on a weekly basis.

Students in 5/6 are expected to complete homework each night. Tasks involve reading, numeracy and spelling. Weekly homework tasks are due Friday mornings.

### **Reading**

Students are to read their Lexile Book for 15-20 minutes each night. Once they have completed their nightly reading they're to create a 'reflection' in their homework book.

#### **Reflections can include:**

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| -The book they're reading and The Author | -Words you need clarified |
| -Pages read                              | -A summary                |
| -Predictions                             | -Interesting / Important  |
| -Visualisations                          |                           |
| -Connections                             |                           |
| -Questions (before, during and after)    |                           |

### **Numeracy**

Each week Students will receive a new 'Focus' related to learning they have undertaken throughout the term.

### **DIARY**

It is the student's responsibility to take their diary home each day and have it signed by their Parent/Carer. This is so that students learn to use the diary as an organisational tool and so that they (and their families) are aware of the many things happening in our busy school.

The student diary is also an effective communication tool between school and home. Please feel free to use it to communicate to your child's teacher. The diary needs to be signed daily.

Students also have a homework book that goes home with the diary. Both the diary and homework book are required to be kept in good condition and replaced if lost or damaged.