



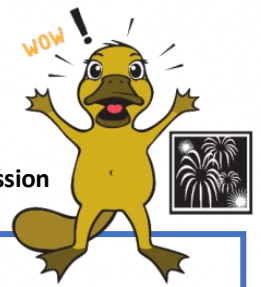
Respect

Honesty

Responsibility

Cooperation

Care & Compassion



Welcome to Term 2:

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Term 2 has started off at a fast pace with many Grade 6 students attending Cave Hill Creek Camp for an exciting 3 days of outdoor activities. As well as learning in the classroom, many other exciting events will be happening this term such as Italian Day, Italian Poetry Competition, Winter Interschool Sport, Mother's Day Stall and 3 way -conferences. Hats are no longer required at school as the cooler weather is beginning to set in.

LITERACY:



This term in Literacy, students will be reading the novel, '47 Degrees' by the Australian author, Justin D'Ath. They will be building their capacity to respond to a text that is based on the real-life event of the Black Saturday bushfires. Emphasis will be given to how an author using language to evoke emotions and portray characters. They will learn a variety of more complex vocabulary and be asked to use these words to write their own texts. Students will also be working to improve their reading fluency; aiming for smooth, expressive reading, at a suitable rate.

We will be focusing on narratives in both Reading and Writing, specifically, science fiction and fantasy as a lead in to writing their own picture story books.

Spelling will be continuing with its more structured approach with an emphasis on learning more complex spelling patterns, spelling rules, as well as prefixes and suffixes.

HOMEWORK:



- Homework will be handed out each **Monday**.
- It needs to be completed and returned each **Friday**.
- Homework will consist of a range of Literacy and Numeracy tasks based on a matrix that students have in their homework books.
- Students will be expected to read for 100 minutes and record the title of their text in their diaries each day they read. This will be returned to school for checking each **Monday**.
- They should also revise their times tables regularly.
- If your child has any questions about their homework, it is *their* responsibility to ask the teacher to clarify the task **during the week**.
- Students will earn points each week for submitting their homework tasks and these points will go towards homework rewards at the end of the term.

INQUIRY:

During Term 2, the Grade 5 & 6 students will explore the causes and impacts of natural disasters on the environment and communities, e.g. bushfires in Australia. They will research into how flora and fauna are affected by natural disasters and will be unpacking where certain natural disasters are more common and the causes of this. Students will then present their learning of their chosen natural disaster in a student-choice project based learning task. After this, students will spend some time learning about the Eureka Stockade and the significance of the Gold Rush in Australian History, including its impacts on society then and now.



MATHEMATICS:

In Term Two, 5/6 students will focusing on Multiplication and Division using efficient mental and written strategies. Lessons will begin with a daily review where students will recap on previously learnt concepts and skills. Students will continue to consolidate their understanding and automatic recall of times tables, with targeted individual goals that have been set in collaboration with classroom teachers. The progress of these goals can be tracked in students' Individual Goal Books. Following this, students will be learning about units of measurement focusing on Length, Area and Perimeter, finishing the term with interpreting, analysing and representing data.

GENERAL HOUSE KEEPING:

STATIONERY: Student book packs are kept in your child's classroom where they can access spare stationery. If your child has run out of required stationery, you will be contacted by their classroom teacher to supply the needed equipment.

COMPUTERS: Please ensure all computers come to school **charged each day**, as students are unable to charge them at school.

DIARIES: Students will be required to bring their diary to school daily to input important notes or dates.

UNIFORM: Students are required to wear the Westmeadows Primary School uniform as per the Student Uniform Policy, which can be found on Compass. This includes appropriate footwear, no jewellery or makeup, shoulder length hair must be tied up (regardless of gender).

STUDENT VOICE AND AGENCY

In Term 2, Student Voice Agents will be taking the lead in Class Meetings to drive voice and agency. Students in the class will be able to use sticky notes to add any feedback they have to the following sections: What's going well? What needs changing? Questions, Ideas. At the end of the week Student Voice Agents will collect the sticky notes from the Feedback Station to facilitate Class Meetings.



LIFT:

In Term 2, the Grade 5 and 6 students will discuss what a safe home looks like and how to seek help if they feel unsafe, completing a unit of work modelling supportive homes with digital technology. They will practise a variety of strategies to respond to negative changes in relationships as well as how to build new friendships. They will learn about the culture of First Nations Australians through discussion and research. Students will explore the impacts that their relationships with others can have on their own health and wellbeing. Finally, they will cooperate to create promotional material demonstrating their learning about the positive benefits of eating a balanced diet, staying active, and social connectedness.

ITALIAN:

Ciao a tutti! During Term Two, the topic for Grade 5/6 students in Italian class will be 'Pasta, pasta, pasta!' Students will learn about the history of pasta and research the different types of pasta there are. Students will work in small groups to create their own pasta restaurant and will learn some language which is used when ordering food in Italian. This will lead into our very exciting Italian Day where students will be making their own fresh pasta and will participate in lots of fun activities to celebrate the Italian culture. Looking forward to a 'magnifico' Term Two!

SCIENCE:

During the second term, the Grade 5/6 students will focus on the key understanding that solids, liquids and gases have different observable properties and behave in different ways. We will identify and classify materials as solids, liquids and gases. The students will investigate how changing the temperature of materials can affect their properties and the state they are in. The students will also explore the viscosity of a liquid, how runny it is.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

Focus sports for Term 2 will be Soccer, Netball and Athletics. Students will learn about different positions and rules across these sports and have the opportunity to experience them in a game scenario. We will look forward to House Athletics in Term 3 and work on the basic skills required to improve performance in both Track and Field events.

VISUAL ART:

The grade 5/6 children are going to have a fantastic term exploring paint mixing and using their fingers as their paint brush. They will complete an expressionist portrait on acetate and make a print from this piece. They will have a go at transferring this knowledge onto cardboard and use Dan Butterworth as their inspiration. Students will complete the term creating a paper sculpture vase influenced by the renowned porcelain, from the Ming Dynasty. Please ensure your child has brought their art smock to school this term.

PERFORMING ARTS:

This term the Grade 5/6 students will be studying Aboriginal culture and the importance of storytelling, ceremonies and celebrations. Activities will include: making and playing a didgeridoo, using instruments to develop a 'story', using dance moves to make up routines, inventing and performing modern day corroborees, making their own Dreamtime story to perform and making a current affairs program about an Aboriginal hero.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT:

Teams have been selected in the following 4 sports for our Winter Interschool Sport fixture; Rugby, Soccer, Netball and Handball. Matches will be played on Friday mornings at either Westmeadows PS or a neighbouring school. Spectators are welcome to attend games. The winter fixture can be seen below.

Round 1: Friday 5th May – HOME Vs School of Good Shepherd (needs rescheduling due to Camp)

Round 2: Friday 12th May – AWAY Vs St Dominic's Primary School (needs rescheduling due to Curriculum Day)

Round 3: Friday 19th May – HOME Vs Aitken College, Greenvale

Round 4: Friday 26th May – AWAY Vs Gladstone Views Primary School

Round 5: Friday 2nd June – HOME Vs Gladstone Park Primary School

Round 6: Friday 9th June – AWAY Vs Tullamarine Primary School

Round 7: Friday 16th June – AWAY Vs Sirius College

**Please note; Home venues for the rugby and soccer teams is the Westmeadows Reserve, Ardlie Street.

For those students not selected in a team, they will remain at school to be involved in a variety of sporting and other engaging activities.

Mrs Michelle Allan, Mr Daniel Gervasoni, Miss Adrianna Kassavetis, Mr Steve Paslawskyj, Miss Lauren Sugg

LEARN FOREVER

LEARN TOGETHER

