

1/2 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



Curriculum Overview

Reading

During reading sessions this term, the 1/2 students have shown fantastic efforts with identifying and reading Just Right Texts. They use Just Right Text to help them practice their reading goals and to build their reading strategies. The 1/2 students have been building their classroom libraries with books they thoroughly enjoy reading. Students have worked hard on exploring features of fiction and nonfiction texts to assist them with building their knowledge of text structures. The 1/2s have also been learning about previewing and predicting before and during their reading. Students have used their knowledge of text features to preview both fiction and nonfiction books. Students have been focusing on understanding how to thoughtfully activate their prior knowledge, to assist them with making meaningful predictions. The 1/2 students will continue on using strategies to also help them build their reading stamina throughout the year.

Writing

We have been very busy during writing this term. At the beginning of the term we unpacked what writing looks like, what good writers do and the expectations around the writing block. We began planting some 'seed ideas' in our writer's notebooks such as writing from a prompt, writing lists of characters and setting, things we are good at and special people in our lives we could write about. We then moved on to writing narratives. We began the unit by looking at a range of narratives for ideas and have now begun planning our own narratives. The grade 1/2s have been working very hard at editing and revising their writing to then publishing a piece of writing. The grade 1/2 students have put so much effort into their writing and have done an excellent job! Well done :)

Numeracy

This term students have been learning about counting number patterns as well as developing an understanding of place value and the value of a number. Students have been learning to describe and identify number sequences. They have been developing their fluency in counting forward and backwards and have been practising skip counting by 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s. Students have been working on developing their place value knowledge and they have been practising making numbers to identify the value of their numbers. We have begun using our 6th hour of maths every week to consolidate and allow students the opportunity to apply the skill they have been taught throughout the week. The grade 1/2s have worked really hard this term at practicing their counting skills well done!

Inquiry Unit

Throughout term one, the 1/2 students have been focusing on the topics 'Learning to Learn' and 'Me and My Body'. During 'Learning to Learn' students worked together to create whole class expectations and procedures to help create a respectful learning environment. All students developed an individual safety plan which recognised the things that make them stressed and the strategies they could use to de-escalate both at home and at school.

Throughout the topic, 'Me and My Body' students have been engaged in in-depth discussions about what is considered to be a 'healthy food', a 'sometimes' food and an 'unhealthy food' and talking about the reasons why these foods may or may not help our bodies function at their best. The students have also been working on identifying what we need to do when our body isn't feeling right and who the responsible adults are in the community that we can go to for help. Students have been discussing the traits of these adults and why they are 'responsible'. The grade one and twos have also been talking about the substances that could harm their body and have been looking at the warning symbols they can look for on the packaging of those substances.. For their assessment task, students were able to choose a brochure or poster to present what they have learned throughout the topic.

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Art

The 1/2's have had a fantastic start to the year. They have been exploring the art process through self-portraits incorporating spatial awareness and placement of objects in relation to each other. They have been creating Mondrian art pieces that incorporate the understanding of the primary colours whilst making connections to the famous artist Piet Mondrian. The students have also had the chance to create and represent the colour wheel through their umbrella work and have also been experimenting with how to create and identify a range of lines and the order of colours using the rainbow. Students have had the opportunity to experiment with and use a range of art materials including pencil, paint, watercolour, crayon and pastel. Well done 1/2's on becoming budding artists.



Science

The 1/2's have shown what excellent scientists they are with a fantastic term 1. This term, the 1/2's focused on how living things grow, change and have babies or offspring that are similar to them. This tied in perfectly with the Science room hosting 10 baby chicks for two weeks. With these chicks, the students got to see first-hand how chickens are born, grow and develop and how they are similar to their adult counterparts; plus they were super cute to hold and look at. The 1/2's further extended their knowledge of living things by exploring how they themselves have grown from babies and will continue to change as they age. They learned some key vocabulary terms to describe this personal growth stage include adolescent, teenager, adult and elderly. Finally, they explored some other familiar animal life cycles including that of frogs and butterflies. Great job to all the 1/2 scientists this term!



Physical Education

This term in 1/2 Physical Education!

Students have had an amazing start to the year! We have reviewed the routines of entering the MPR and had conversations around playing with others. This term, we focused on catching and throwing at different distances, using language like near/ far and when we would be using specific types of throws. We also worked on looking at our target when throwing. Finally, we looked at the importance of rules when playing recess and minor games. Put your catching mitts away because Term 2 is next up!

