

# GRADE 5 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER: TERM 1

## Important Dates

Wednesday, February 20th	Meet the Teacher Interviews
Friday, March 15th	Circus of Life Performance
Monday, March 18th—Friday, March 22nd	5/6 Swimming Program
Friday, April 5th	End of Term 1



## Curriculum Overview

### English

In Reading, our Grade 5 learners will begin the term with the **First 20 Days of Reading**. The goal of the First 20 Days is to establish the essential reading routines, expectations, and behaviours that lay the groundwork for the thinking strategies we want readers to use throughout the year. After the conclusion of the First 20 Days, students will explore a range of comprehension strategies in depth, including **activating prior knowledge**, **predicting**, and **visualising**. At the tail-end of this term, students will spend several weeks developing their **inferring** skills using imaginative and informative texts.

Similarly, in Writing, our Grade 5 learners will spend the first few weeks of term learning about the routines, expectations, and behaviours expected of them in the writing workshop. They will build upon their understanding of the writing process from previous years, which involves students planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing a text-type of their choice. They will also begin creating entries for their Writer's Notebook—a launching pad for writing and a place for collecting 'seeds' (i.e. writing ideas). In the second half of this term, our Grade 5 learners will explore the structure, features, and purpose of **persuasive writing**. In doing so, they will learn to follow the writing process to completion and use compelling vocabulary and persuasive devices most suitable to their topic, audience, and purpose.

### Mathematics

Our Grade 5 mathematicians will begin Term 1 with a **Start-Up Numeracy Program**. They will revise the problem-solving process, tackle a range of word problems where they must apply different problem-solving strategies, and demonstrate their thinking using various representations, i.e. 'make it, draw it, record it.' Additionally, our learners will investigate how to use the Maths Trolley resources to assist them in solving problems. They will also spend time learning how to work cooperatively in groups with new peers through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) practices.

Later in the term, our Grade 5 mathematicians will spend significant time learning about **base-10 numeration and whole and decimal place value**. They will gain experience with estimating and rounding numbers using the base-10 system, e.g. to the nearest 10, 100, and 1 000. Students will discover how to order decimals and fractions on number lines, including identifying equivalent fractions.

Near the end of the term, our learners will spend several weeks learning about a range of essential measurement topics: **perimeter**, **capacity**, and **mass**. They will learn to convert between formal units of measurement and recognise the relationship between metric units of measurement and the base-10 place value system.

### Inquiry

Our Grade 5 learners will explore two topics for Inquiry this term.

The first Inquiry topic, titled '**Learning to Learn**,' involves students learning how to strengthen and support their ability to learn and form positive relationships. They will do this by developing a growth mindset, nurturing their character strengths, and understanding how they can best develop their bodies and minds. As part of their learning, students will create a 'ready to learn plan' to assist them with self-regulating.

The second Inquiry topic, '**Play it Safe**,' involves our learners understanding that they can make a positive impact on their health and wellbeing through their choices and actions. The key questions for this topic include:

- How do we keep ourselves safe in different situations (e.g. school, home, water, traffic, online)?
- How can we prepare ourselves to make positive choices that promote our health, safety and wellbeing?
- What resources can we access in the community to seek help about health, safety and wellbeing?



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## Science

During term one students will learn how the form of living things enables them to function in their environments. Students will learn to explain how particular adaptations help survival such as nocturnal behaviour, silvery coloured leaves of dune plants. They will describe and list adaptations of living things suited for Australian environments. Students will explore general adaptations for environments such as adaptations that aid water conservation in deserts. Students will practise discussions on how scientific developments have affected people's lives, help all of us solve problems and how science knowledge has developed from many people's contributions. Students will learn how to pose questions for and predict the effect of changing variables when planning an investigation. They will use equipment in ways that are safe and improve the accuracy of their observations. Students will construct tables and graphs to organise their data and identify patterns in their data. They will compare patterns in their data with the predictions they made when suggesting explanations. Students will learn how to describe ways to improve the fairness of their investigations, and communicate their ideas and findings using different text types.

## Art

All year levels this term will begin with learning the technique of Graffiti Art and personal design, to decorate their art journals and folders. The grade 5's will use inspiration from previous knowledge on colour theory this term, to create a range of art works. They will explore proportion to create self-portraits that will help them to recognise the importance of the placement of features within their art. They will explore secondary and tertiary colours through colour mixing and understanding of the colour wheel. The 5's will then work with complimentary colours whilst learning about artists who use them such as, Pop artist Andy Warhol. The student's will then experiment with Monochromatic colour and create their very own inspired art piece. All students will have the opportunity to use a range of materials including pencil, paint, watercolour, crayon and pastel to create these pieces. I really look forward to working with the grade 5's this term and creating some wonderful art pieces.

## Chinese

This term in Chinese, Grade 5/6 students will be focusing on Chinese character and sentence structure. Students will be engaging with oral language by active listening, observing interactions between speakers in everyday contexts, and using the spoken language in a range of forms. They will record and learn new vocabulary by using word lists in Pinyin and use Pinyin to prepare drafts of spoken texts. Grade 5/6 students will also identify the capital city and major cities in China. With teacher support, students will begin to use Chinese to communicate their own ideas. They will also make and draw some Chinese New Year feature items.

During this term, students will be continuing to develop the following skills: Questioning, analysing, collaboration skill, communicating their ideas, speaking, literacy and numeracy skill.

## PE

Welcome back everyone! This term will be great filled with confidence building and stamina. We will begin by setting ourselves some goals on what we would like to learn this term in Physical Education. First, we will review what invasion games are (playing against another team with the same goal/ achievement). Students will focus on how to deal with conflicts that may occur during the game. Students will then look at transition from defence to offence and then finally playing the game so everyone enjoys it. We will end the term off by having our Grade 5 cohort design an exercise circuit, in which their peers will part take in!

Get your water and hats ready and let's start this term!