

GRADE 5 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER: TERM 2

Important Dates

Tuesday 14th May-Thursday 16th May	NAPLAN Testing
Friday 31st May	Parliament Process Incursion
Friday 24th May, 31st May and 7th June	Winter Sports (Interschool)
Monday 10th June	Queen's Birthday Pub Hol
Wednesday 26th June	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday 28th June	End of Term 2



Curriculum Overview

English

In Reading, our Grade 5 learners have continued with their focus on **Inferring**. This term, students will be focusing on inferring the main idea or main message of a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. Following on from this, our learners will be making a range of deeper level text to self, text to text and text to world connections while focusing on the comprehension strategy **Making Connections**. Towards the end of the term, students will begin a unit on **Questioning**. We will be focusing on the questions that readers ask before, during and after reading to gain a deeper level of understanding about a text. As part of our comprehension focus, students will be learning to organise and demonstrate their thinking through the use of their reading journals.

In Writing, our Grade 5 learners will spend the first few weeks of term revising the structure and language features of **narrative** texts. We will then launch into an engaging unit on **Poetry**. Students will explore a range of poetic structures as well as language devices that writers use to paint vivid mental images in the readers mind. This unit will conclude with students having developed a poetry anthology of their works.

Mathematics

Our Grade 5 mathematicians will begin Term 2 with a focus on the **four operations**– addition, subtractions, multiplication and division. Students will continue to develop a range of mental skills to speedily solve problems. Our learners will also be exposed to a variety of different written and mental strategies that extend beyond basic number facts to add, subtract, multiply and divide large numbers. This unit will be taught in the context of real-world problems.

Later in the term, our Grade 5 mathematicians will spend some time extending their skills with the four operations and applying this to solve a range of **area and volume** related problems.

Inquiry

Our Grade 5 learners will be exploring laws and how they are made through our topic 'Law and Order'. Students will be developing an understanding of how Australia's legal system aims to promote equality and justice for all. The key questions for this topic include:

- How are laws developed and enforced in Australia?
- What does it mean to be an Australian citizen?
- How does the Australian legal system compare to that of other countries (e.g. Asia and Europe)?

On Friday the 31st of May, students will be participating in an incursion called Parliament Process. Through this, students will develop an understanding how a law is developed and passed through parliament.

Homework

Homework will be given out each Friday and students are asked to bring this back the following Thursday. Homework will consist of nightly reading, with a record being kept in student diaries. A response-to-text task may also be set.

Students will also be set a second task related to either Writing, Mathematics or Inquiry. The work will focus on revision of content already covered in the classroom.



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ART

Moving into Term 2, the grade 5's will be finishing off their colour theory unit. The students will be learning to draw a cartoon like face through instructional drawing and combining this with their knowledge of complementary colours, to help enhance and create visually dynamic artworks inspired by the Pop Art era. The grade 5's will then learn about lines and the important part they play in everyday Art. They will use these lines to create abstract and still life works and will be learning to understand the different ways students perceive task direction and how it makes each art piece unique. They will also use lines to create their own Mandela's and use bursts of colour to enhance their work. Finally the students will do instructional drawing to learn how lines can create 3D effects. Drawing with lines is fundamental to learning about Art and is the basis to all drawing; it also helps to improve fine motor skills. I look forward to a fun and creative time with the grade 5's learning about lines this term.

LOTE

This term in LOTE, Grade 5/6 students will be focusing on family member names, some public place names, time, weather and seasons. They will use sentence structure and the short phrase to create a short story. Students will be engaging with characters and points of view in short imaginative texts, express personal opinions and create simple spoken imaginative texts. Grade 5/6 students will also learn some major countries' names in the world. With teacher support, students will begin to use Chinese to communicate their own ideas. They will also engage in some cultural activities, such as paper cutting and making a paper dragon.

PE

Welcome back! This term is full of fun. First off, we will reset our goals and then make our way into the Net and Wall game unit. During this unit, our students will focus on rallying the ball, using your team and maintain a good body position and how different positions change the result of the outcome. After our unit, our students will be competing for a spot in Athletics. They will be prepared for the different events (long jump, high jump, triple jump, etc).

Get ready to learn because we are going full speed ahead!

SCIENCE

During term two students will develop their understanding of physics. They will explore observable qualities associated with light and begin to appreciate its set of characteristic behaviours. They will learn to draw simple labelled ray diagrams to show the paths of light from a source to our eyes. Students will compare shadows from various light sources such as torches and fluorescent tubes. They will classify materials as transparent, opaque or translucent based on whether light passes through them or is absorbed. They will learn to recognise that the colour of an object depends on the properties of the object and the colour of the light source. Students will explore the use of mirrors to show the reflection of light and they will recognise the refraction of light at the surfaces of different transparent materials, such as when light travels from air to water or air to glass.

Students will continue to learn about how scientific developments have affected people's lives, helped 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. Students 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. Students will compare patterns in their data with the predictions they made when suggesting explanations.