

TERM ONE

5/6 CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

DATE	EVENT
30 April 2018	CANBERRA CAMP
25 April 2018	ANZAC DAY
23 April 2018	START OF TERM



English

Reading: The 5/6 team have been working to increase their knowledge around understanding of how Smart Thinking readers choose Just Right Texts/Books, that we need to read different types of books, how to build our classroom Library, and to understand how to do independent reading and be aware of the expectations of Silent Reading. This unit is to ensure that the Reading sessions are as effective as possible.

Writing: During the Term we have worked on setting up and introducing Writer's Notebooks and why we use a Writer's Notebook. Students now know what a writing workshop is and what it looks like in class. Students know how we store and access materials, e.g. writing folders and how to use them.

We have also been writing persuasive texts, looking at the language and features of this important style of writing. The students have completed several pieces to convince the audience of their point of view. Using the structure of persuasive writing is important, as is sequencing the arguments in a logical order. The ability to engage the audience is a focus for most of the students. Excellent work everybody!

Mathematics

The 5/6 cohort have been working through team strategies when doing maths, This included skills in problem solving using the CUBE strategy which allows students to interpret worded problems to find the important information, and using a process based strategy to use the four operations to solve problems. Students have also learned how to use and store maths equipment effectively. Our latest unit was focussed on number & algebra using the appropriate multiplication process to solve repeated addition problems efficiently. Well done 5/6's we are off to a good start!

Risk Taking Rules
1) I'm trying to confuse you...is that ok?
2) No right or wrong
3) You can change your mind...several times if you like
4) You have to have a guess / have a go?
5) It's ok to copy
6) No rubbing out - this lets me see your thinking
7) Record, Record, Record

MWPS Problem Solving Strategies	
USE THE MATHEMATICAL OPERATIONS Use addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and fractions to solve problems.	DRAW A PICTURE Draw a picture of the problem to help you solve it.
ACT IT OUT Use objects or your body to act out the problem.	MAKE A TABLE Make a table to organize information and find a pattern.
LOOK FOR A PATTERN Look for a pattern in the numbers or shapes to help you solve the problem.	WRITE A NUMBER SENTENCE Write a number sentence to represent the problem.
USE A PROBLEM SOLVING STRATEGY Use a strategy like CUBES to solve the problem.	WORK BACKWARDS Work backwards from the answer to find the starting point.
MAKE A LIST Make a list of all possible solutions to the problem.	MAKE A LIST Make a list of all possible solutions to the problem.

Inquiry

During Term 1 the students have taken part in two Inquiry Units. The first unit was called "Learning to Learn" and focussed on the practices and attitudes needed to be successful at Melton West Primary School. The Key Understanding revolved around strengthening and supporting our ability to learn and form positive relationships by developing a growth mindset, recognising and nurturing our character strengths and understanding how we can best develop our bodies and minds. The evidence that this was a successful unit is shown by the settled students in the cohort.

The second unit was called "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind" where the students learned about their physical body and its needs, and changes throughout the different stages of the human lifespan. The students were challenged to consider what the effects of different substances are on the body and mind. And how we can incorporate healthy choices to sustain the changes the body undertakes. The unit was the subject of an open classroom "showcase" where parents were presented with the students' findings.

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Art

During Term 1 the 5/6s students engaged in visual arts practices and experienced artwork that extended their understanding of colour theory and how it is used by artists to engage their audience through emotion and movement. The students worked with Secondary and Tertiary colours, to create artwork inspired by the colour wheel. They then used this base understanding of colour, to create pieces that looked at how complementary and analogous colours are used by an artist to attract an audience to aspects within their work. Building on the concept of how artists use colour theory to appeal to their audience the 5/6 students used warm and cool colours to create emotion and time lapse within a single piece of art. The students created these works by exploring and applying different textures and materials including pencil, paint, watercolour, crayon and pastel.



Science

What a great first term 5/6's have had! Grade 5/6 students have been learning about particular adaptations that help living things survive, such as nocturnal behaviour, migration and communication. Students have been describing and listing adaptations of living things suited for particular environments, culminating in the creation of a research project focusing on a particular animal. The 5/6 students have presented these projects in small groups and scored each other using a rubric. Students have been using science inquiry skills, such as questioning and predicting to learn more about the features and adaptation of living things that help them to survive in their chosen environments.



Physical Education

Our 5/6 cohort have been amazing when it comes to sportsmanship! Before every lesson, we would refer to Skeletor (our x-ray in the MPR) to understand which muscles and joints we have been using. We started off with Net and Wall Games, where our students looked at strategies for them to be successful in any game – using the angles in front of us to beat our opponent. After students perfected their game by making sure they had the right body position. Our students are zooming in on their muscular system and connecting it to the games we are playing. There is no 'I' in Team! READY TEAM?! TERM 2!!