

5/6 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER: TERM 2

Important Dates

Monday 30th April to Friday 4th May	Canberra Camp
Tuesday 15th May to Thursday 17th May	NAPLAN assessment
Monday 21st May	Curriculum Day—No Students
Thursday 28th June	Three Way Conferences



Reading

In Term 2, our Grade 5/6 students will continue learning about QAR (Question-Answer Relationships) as a comprehension and test-taking strategy to assist students with taking NAPLAN. Students will continue to consolidate their understanding of 'right there,' 'think and search,' 'author and me' and 'on my own' questions and how the text and their prior knowledge can be used to answer these. Additionally, students will explore how 'Making Connections' can assist them in understanding the texts they read. Students will develop their skills in connecting to texts on a personal level as well as connecting texts to other texts and texts to world events.

Writing

Students will revisit the narrative writing, with a focus on contemporary narratives. Students will learn to explore the features of narrative texts, including creating characters and settings, and using language devices to engage their audience. Students will also focus on using the structural elements of a narrative by including problem and solution scenarios in their narratives. Later in the term, students will explore a variety of poetry and learn how to apply poetic devices to their own poetry. At the conclusion of this unit of learning, students will publish a poetry anthology, which will then go into their classroom libraries for their classmates to read.

LiteracyPlanet is a digital learning tool that our school has purchased to support students with their reading skills at school. Be sure to ask your child's teacher if you do not have your child's login details for LiteracyPlanet yet!

Mathematics

Grade 5/6 students will begin Term 2 with a unit of learning on time. Students will explore the use of timetables and schedules for everyday experiences such as going to the movies or catching a bus. They will also learn about the duration of events and how this factors into planning.

Following this unit of learning on time students will undertake a large focus on fractions, decimals and percentages. Students will explore making fractions of objects and groups of items, as well as understanding fractions written in numerical form, including the numerator and denominator, and what each mean. Once a solid understanding of fractions is developed students will connect this knowledge to decimal and percentage understanding.

Mathletics is another digital learning tool that our school uses to support students with their numeracy learning at school. You can use this comprehensive digital resource at home on a computer or tablet device, just like LiteracyPlanet, so be sure to ask your child's teacher if you do not have your child's login details for Mathletics yet!

Inquiry

Term 2 will begin with students completing an assessment task relating to their Term 1 Inquiry topic 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind'. Students will use their persuasive skills to create campaign that explains why different elements of a healthy lifestyle are essential living a healthy life.

After completing these projects students will begin exploring the Australian Government and the role and responsibility of the Government and Australian Citizens in our Inquiry topic 'Decisions, Decisions, Decisions'. Students who are attending Canberra Camp will get a first hand look at many of the responsibilities of our Government, including the creation of laws.

In culmination of their learning students will create a presentation for their own law they believe should come into effect in the local or school community. These presentations will be the focus of our Term 2 Inquiry Showcase. (date to be confirmed)

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ART

Term two will see the 5/6 students deepening their understanding of line, shape and pattern within artwork to create their own artistic pieces that show mood, emotion and movement. They will experiment with a variety of art materials to develop implied and actual texture within their art and discuss how these elements may affect their intended audience. They will focus on abstract, pop and optical illusion art that incorporates line, shape and pattern for its sole purpose. They will study pieces of work from artists including Bridget Riley, Andy Warhol and Kandinsky to inspire their own pieces of art.

PE

In term 2, we will begin the semester by challenging ourselves via stamina. Students continue to refer back to their goals and improve their beep tests. Students have looked at factors for their success (sleep, food, attitude, etc).

Next up is our Striking and Fielding unit! Our 5/6 students will be playing games such as Kickball, Ribby, Races to the Bases and more to help understand their strength when striking the ball.

Later this term, the 5/6's will be preparing for Athletics. This will be happening next term through class and our Melton West Athletics Carnival. Students will be focusing on body position in high jump, long jump, triple jump and relay.

I am looking forward to another great term of growth! Let's get going!

SCIENCE

This term in Science students will be focusing on developing an understanding of how light from a source forms shadows and can be absorbed, reflected and refracted. They will classify materials as transparent, opaque or translucent based on the extent to which light passes through them or is absorbed. Students will explore the use of mirrors to demonstrate the reflection of light. They will learn to recognise the refraction of light at the surfaces of different transparent materials, for example, when light travels from air to water or air to glass. Students will also recognise that the colour of an object depends on the properties of the object and the colour of the light source.