



Curriculum Newsletter

Year 6

Term 2, 2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is hard to believe that we have finished Term 1 already and what an unusual finish it was courtesy of Cyclone Debbie.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your participation in the Parent/Teacher/Student conferences which were invaluable in refocussing student goals and directions for Term 2.

Thanks also for the time and effort you gave to preparing the students for the Year 6 Leadership Camp. This was a wonderful experience which gave the students an opportunity to try different and challenging activities, connect with their friends and practise leadership skills in a fun, safe environment.

Religious Education

In Religious Education this term, the students will explore images of Jesus in the Gospels and other New Testament texts. They will have the opportunity to creatively share these images through their own visual interpretations and explanations.

In the latter part of the term, students will investigate the Holy Spirit as inspiration for the human authors of Scripture.



Mathematics

As in Term 1, the students will be engaging in learning activities centred on Number and Algebra, Statistics and Probability and Measurement and Geometry from the Australian Curriculum. All three strands of Mathematics will be covered during every term to varying degrees.

Highlights this term include students revising, consolidating and extending their understanding of: numbers to one million and beyond; expanding large numbers using powers of ten; addition, subtraction and multiplication involving larger numbers; percentage as a fraction of one hundred; improper fractions and mixed numbers; perimeter and area of shapes; ordering the probability of events; converting between units of length; angles and the use of a protractor; reading and interpreting graphs and problem solving across a variety of contexts.

Students will work in groups, pairs and individually within Maths sessions to enable each type of learner to achieve their individual goals.

Your support is appreciated in assisting the students to revise number facts on a regular basis, particularly times tables for homework.

English

The Year 6 English curriculum sees students continuing to participate in a variety of literacy activities and exploring a range of spoken, visual and written texts.

Reading and viewing activities this term, will enable students to develop their literal and, most importantly, inferential comprehension skills as they learn to respond to different types of text, not only within the context of English, but across all subject areas.

Targeted lessons will focus on punctuation and grammar, including parts of speech and how these elements work together to improve student writing. Author's voice, bias and justifying arguments will be investigated as students learn to comprehend and create written and spoken persuasive texts.

Students will also explore aspects of different types of poetry, particularly the use of literary devices. They will then use this knowledge to create their own poems.

We continue to ask for your support in encouraging students to read at home as much and as often as possible. This helps to improve their fluency, vocabulary and most importantly, comprehension skills. Students will borrow from the school library every week and work towards achieving their individual reading goals.

Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

HASS includes the areas of *History, Geography and Civics and Citizenship*.

During Term Two, students will extend their knowledge and understanding of Australian history as they explore what life was like post Federation for Indigenous Australians, migrants, women and children. They will learn about the struggles and victories of these different groups as they fought for their rights under the new Constitution. These ideas will be extended within the Civics and Citizenship component of the Year 6 curriculum, as students continue to learn how the three levels of government in Australia (federal, state and local) work together and how laws are changed or made under the parliamentary system.

As part of the Geography component of HASS, students will explore the differences in the demographic and social characteristics of countries across the world. They will learn about the relationship between a country's wealth and the health, education and lifestyle of its citizens.



Science

Study within chemical science will see students investigate how changes to materials can be reversible or irreversible. Students will learn how scientists plan and conduct fair tests through their own hands-on experiences and how knowledge can be utilised to solve environmental and scientific issues.



Technology

As always, aspects of Technology will be integrated across the curriculum, as students use their laptops in all subject areas. Students will be taught about the appropriate use of digital devices and will utilise them for purposes of research, skill development, word processing and presenting.

Specialist Classes

LOTE: Congratulations to the Year 6 students for an amazing effort on their Term 1 oral presentations in which they talked about their future. Congratulations also to those students who achieved their personal learning goal last term. The focus for Term 2 is on Japanese sentence structure, which is almost a perfect reverse of English. Students will be using prior knowledge of verbs and 'particles' alongside new vocab (telling the time and days of the week) to compile a *Celebrity Schedule*. Students will continue to use the *Edmodo* platform to participate in fortnightly vocab quizzes. The reading and writing of Hiragana script will be further consolidated in class using a variety of games and other tactile materials. In Week 6, a Japanese Taiko Drum and Flute Performance Troupe will be visiting us for a cultural incursion.

PE: Focus in PE this term is on preparation for the school sports day in Term 3. Students will improve their existing skill ability and knowledge of shotput, long jump, high jump

and running activities. Interschool sport, also this term, allows students to take part in either soccer or netball. While some students have already acquired skills in these sports, it gives others a first-time opportunity to be part of a team competing against students from other schools. These situations allow students to develop and further enhance the use of game strategies, applying rules, consequences of rule infringements and the enjoyment of being a team member.

Music: *Electronic Dance Music* continues for Year Six in Term 2. Listening and critical thinking activities are still a focus so students understand how the elements are manipulated to create music within this genre. Students will have the opportunity to compose their own EDM works and will work towards furthering their guitar skills through learning new notes and songs. Duet work will also feature.

Important Dates

As usual, there are important dates to keep in mind. Apart from the list below, keep an eye on the school newsletter and the calendar on the Parent Portal for other significant dates as they arise.

Labour Day Public Holiday	Monday May 1 st
Prep Interviews commence	Tuesday May 2 nd
Naplan Year 3 and Year 5	Tuesday May 9 th until Thursday May 11 th
Mothers' Day Stall - MC Campus	Thursday May 4 th
Mothers' Day	Sunday May 14 th
School Photos	Monday May 15 th and Tuesday May 16 th
Pentecost Sunday	Sunday June 4 th
Last Day Term 2	Friday June 23 rd

We look forward to another great term,

The Year 6 Teachers

Tom Kirby Anne-Maree Harrison Liz Morrissey