

Specialist Newsletter Term Two



We trust our wonderful GWPS families have had a restful Easter break and holiday, and are eager to begin with what is promising to be a term full of fantastic learning opportunities provided by our highly motivated Specialist Team.

Before you view our Term 2 Specialist learning, we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the amazing learning achieved in Term 1:

- The fun-filled Twilight Sports event was a great success and showcased our wonderful school community.
- Learners successfully completing our whole school swimming and water safety program.
- The prowess showed at House & District Athletics Days.
- Senior Choir's beautiful performance at the Harmony Week assembly.
- Our very first Year 4 Drum Ensemble is up and running.
- The learning experiences afforded to participants in the Year 4, 5 & 6 Multimedia & Digital Learning program.

Please take the time to read our Specialist Newsletter where you will discover what your child will be learning in the various Specialist classes this term.

Thank you,

The Specialist Team

TERM TWO IMPORTANT DATES

After School Mandarin Classes

When: From 23rd of April Monday.

Who: Students in Year 1 to Year 6

Where: The language classroom (ELC end)

When: Every Tuesday from 3:30pm to 4:15pm

Chinese Choir

When: Lunch time, Every Friday

Where: The language classroom

Chinese Character Writing Competition Final

When: Week 4

Music

May 2nd - NEVR Rehearsal

May 9th - NEVR Rehearsal

May 22nd - NEVR Rehearsal and Performance

School Band - Tuesday Mornings 8am

Senior Choir - Fridays Session 5

Junior Choir - **Monday Odd Week Session 5***

Yr. 4 Drum Ensemble - Tuesday

Lunchtimes

VSSS Choir Rehearsals - SMART 8 Session

Physical Education

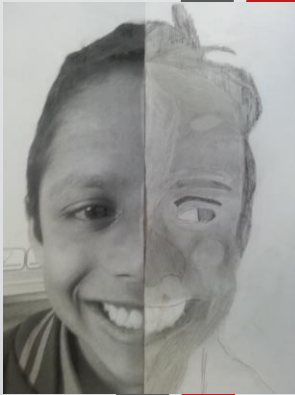
May 8th - F-3 Fitness Fun Day

May 10th - 4-6 School Cross Country


May 18th - District Cross Country



Visual Art

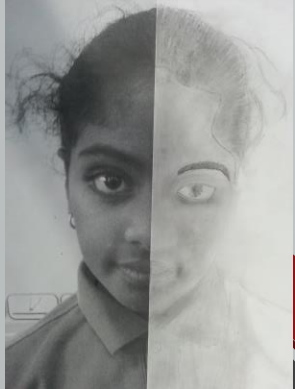


Foundation: Learners will create a large class rainbow collage mural made from magazine cuttings. This learning task is designed to refine learners' fine motor skills (cutting) and increase their understanding of colour theory, through discovering the nuanced transitions between colour. They will conclude the term by constructing a cellophane flower, and explore primary colours overlapping to produce secondary colours.



Year 1: Linking with their Inquiry unit 'Schoolyard Safari', learners will utilise an insect template to experiment with pattern-making. The key learning intention of this project is to further develop learners fine motor skills, and to help learners employ a variety of styles and techniques in their pattern making.

Year 2: Complimenting the 'All Mixed Up' Inquiry unit, learners will construct an Indigenous North American 'God's Eye'. By experimenting with 'tension' and accurate placement of materials, they will gain craft knowledge and build their ability to apply the art principle of unity.



Year 3: Adding depth to their Inquiry unit 'Plants in Action', learners will start the term by making a 'Mr Potato Head' by planting grass seeds and observing the 'hair' growing. They will then explore the structure of trees and various decorative elements by creating their own interpretation of a 'Klimt' artwork.

This year, our learners are continuing to utilise a visual diary, aimed to enhance learner's visual thinking, aid in tracking learning progress, and acting as a memento of their learning journey when they leave GWPS. Our outstanding Art Captains, Justin and Dasuni, have been playing an integral role in enhancing positive Visual Arts learning outcomes across GWPS. They have been promoting external poster competitions, continuing to add to the Art Room's 'Word Wall', and contributing to the day to day running of the Visual Arts department. They will also be leading our Term 2 Level 5 and 6 Advanced Art Program.



Year 4: Through exploration of the conventions of Japanese art and watercolour painting, learners will transfer this knowledge and draw and paint a Cherry Blossom tree onto a fan. Learners will also be provided with opportunities to extend their subject matter beyond the depiction of a Cherry Blossom tree based on their research and preference.

Year 5: Learners will explore the beautiful world of Renaissance Chiaroscuro art (extreme light and dark), and will then produce an observational drawing of their hands and face using charcoal. The key learning focus will involve exploring skills and techniques that create the illusion of three dimensions.

Year 6: Linking with their learning about earthquakes in the classroom, Year 6 learners will explore the 'effects' of earthquakes by creating a tsunami artwork based on the famous 'Grate Wave of Kanagawa' Japanese wood block print. The key learning foci involved in this task include experimentation of various designs using knowledge of the 'design principles'.

Advanced Art Classes: 18 Year 5 and 6 learners will be manipulating 3D pens to create their own unique plastic sculpture. They will gain knowledge of, and apply, structural knowledge using materials that change temperature to solidify, and create a range of unique designs that are appropriate for the materials used.

After School Art Classes

New Star Art School are continuing afterschool art classes throughout the term. There are 2 art classes, F-2. & Years 3-6.

Where: F-2: Art Room
3-6: 1B (next door to the Art Room)

When: Throughout the term every Wednesday from 3:45-5:15.

For more information please contact Yaping on 0417 104 975 or e-mail yaping.jiang@gmail.com

Art Displays

Be sure to regularly look for new displays in the main corridor, or on display boards, around the school showing the students' fantastic learning!



Foundation

Learners will continue to develop their singing voice and learn basic body percussion to 'keep in time'. They will also continue to play C and A Minor on ukulele and be introduced to percussion instruments.

Year 1

In Term Two, learners will develop their aural skills through pitch pointing and transcribe short rhythmic phrases. They will also build their knowledge of the names of the keys on the piano and move towards playing short songs.

Year 2

During Term Two, learners will unpack beat, rhythm and pitch, as well as continuing to 'pitch point' which will lead to music notation. Learners will also progress from simple keyboard songs to more rigorous melodies.

Year 3

Learners in Term Two will take on the role of 'Music Detectives' and explore elements of music. They will also be introduced to reading music on the stave.



Year 4

In Term Two, learners will continue to develop their singing voice and undertake a more rigorous approach to piano through undertaking a unit focusing on music associated with 'Star Wars'.

Year 5

During Term Two, learners will apply how they learn into a music classroom context, working individually or collaboratively based on their learning preferences. Year 5 learners will also continue to develop their piano skills.

Year 6

Learners will be completing their 12 Bar Blues unit, recording themselves each lesson so they can track their growth over the semester. This will lead into learners composing their own Blues melody.



School Band

School Band will begin Tuesday 8am Week 2.

VSSS Choir

VSSS Choir have been busily learning about vocal health and developing their pitch. We have just received the music from VSSS and are eagerly practicing.

NEVR Youth Concert

We are excited this year to have a group of learners from Year 5 and 6 performing at the North Eastern Region (NEVR) Youth Concert at Hamer Hall on May 22nd.

Year 4 Drum Ensemble

Year 4 Drum Ensemble is taking shape. We have been rehearsing once a week and are almost ready to perform at assembly.

Junior Choir

Junior Choir will rehearse Monday Session 5 (in Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11). We welcome our new Year 3 members!

Advanced Music

Year 1 & 2 have Advanced Music this term. Learners will be focusing on playing chord progressions on piano, ukulele and guitar. They will also be exploring chord progressions through GarageBand.

Physical Education

2018 seen a strong start across the whole school in Physical Education and Sport, and again I would also take this opportunity to encourage all parents to be involved in as many school sporting events as possible, as the more helpers we have, the bigger and more profound the experience for our fantastic learners!

Foundation

During Term Two, learners will continue to develop their fundamental motor skills of catching, throwing and bouncing a ball, through a range of learning tasks. Learners will participate in 'pool noodle' learning tasks designed to develop their hand-eye coordination. As a culmination of their efforts, they will also participate in a Fitness Challenge encouraging teamwork to gain points for their House!

Year 1 and 2

In Term Two, learners will be encouraged to demonstrate positive PE behaviours of participation, encouraging others, taking turns and following the rules. They will continue to develop fundamental motor skills of throwing and catching through a unit of learning using pool noodles. Learners will also develop their forehand striking skills through participating in a tennis-based unit. Through whole-class and small-group learning tasks, they will work towards achieving individual learning goals in these areas. Learners will also participate in a Fitness Challenge where they will be encouraged to work in teams and as individuals to gain points for their House!

Year 3

Learners will continue to further advance their fundamental motor skills in more organised sporting contexts. Tennis will be the focus for our unit in striking, which will also support the areas of fitness; sportsmanship, and participating in learning new sports. Later in the term, learners will begin to undertake essential assessment, which includes all FMS skills assessment, as well as team and individual beep tests.

Year 4

Year 4 will begin the term with a focus on net and 'wall' games; activities where players send an object towards a court or target area that an opponent is defending. The aim is to cause the object to land in the target area while making it difficult for the opponent to return the object. These include volleyball, tennis and badminton. Later in Term Two, learners will begin their essential assessment which includes all FMS skills assessment, as well as team and individual beep tests.

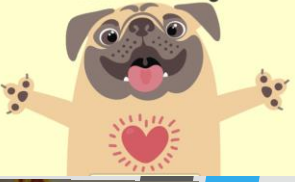
Year 5 and 6

In Term Two, learners will begin a unit focusing on 'invasion games', a way for students to fully participate in 'game-sense' activities. Consisting of rugby, European handball, AFL and speedball, the unit will assist Year 6's to achieve success in Winter Interschool Sports by improving both skills and tactical strategy in a game situation

Once again, a large emphasis of HPE will be on assisting learners to identify and assess their own fundamental motor skills abilities and improve upon these. Much of our Term Two work will focus on achieving this using a variety of equipment to assist in building these skills. Units of sport will also be undertaken in Term Two to allow learners to practice these skills. Games and sports also allow skills to be developed using 'game sense'; where skills are used in context of sport. This also allows learners to improve in areas such as creating space and team play, tactics and sportsmanship. Lets also not forget Lunchtime Sport run by the Year 6 House Captains, which is for everyone!



2018
Year of the Dog



Languages- Mandarin

Welcome back to Term Two! We hope that everyone enjoyed their Term One holidays. In Term Two, learners will expand their language abilities through linking tasks completed in LOTE with their classroom Inquiry units. They will also be exploring and celebrating the Dragon Boat Festival!

Foundation

Learners in Foundation learnt how to write and count to ten in Mandarin in Term One. This term, they will learn how to say colours, and learn about the traditions of the Dragon Boat Festival.

Year 1

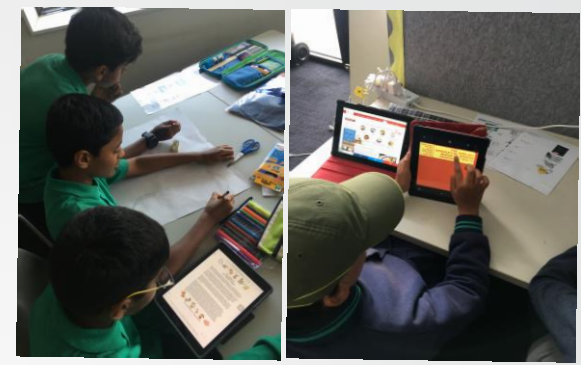
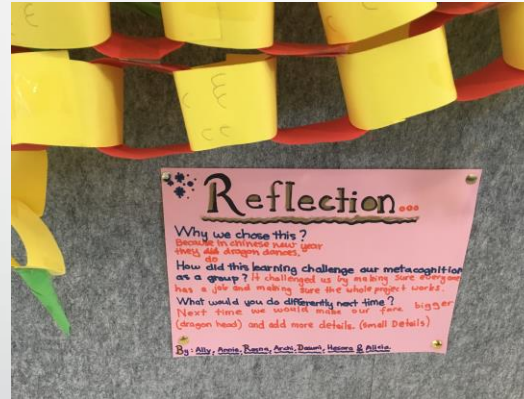
In Term One, learners established how to introduce their family in a sentence and are beginning to differentiate between Mandarin characters and 'pin yin'. This term, they will learn how to say names of mini beasts in Mandarin in connection to their Inquiry unit.

Year 2

Year 2 learners studied traffic and transportation vocabulary in Term One, and will now be focusing their attention on learning how to describe different types of food.

Year 3

To link with their Inquiry unit of study, learners will explore the life-cycle of living things, focusing on the life cycle of different plants. During this process, learners will be developing their ability to name types of plants in Mandarin. They will create a poster about the growing stages of a plant as a reflection of their learning.



Year 4

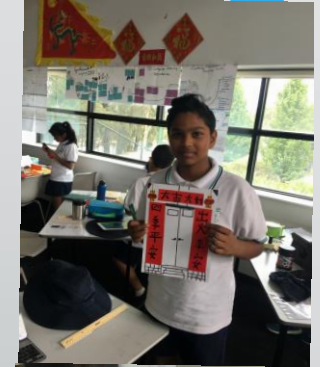
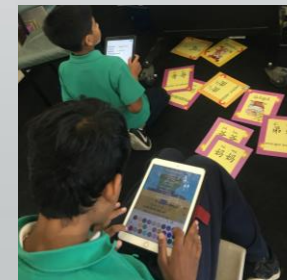
In Term Two, learners will focus on naming planets in the solar system in Mandarin and learn to describe the characteristics of different planets by using simple sentence structures. By the end of term, learners will create a class e-book about the solar system in Mandarin.

Year 5

Linking to their Term Two Inquiry unit, learners will focus on essential Chinese sentences and vocabulary regarding desert exploration and survival. They will also research the trade networks of the ancient 'Silk Road'. At the end of the unit, learners will then investigate and complete an inquiry-based project on ancient trade routes.

Year 6

Learners will build essential Mandarin sentences and vocabulary regarding natural disasters, speaking Mandarin words and phrases in class and practicing their writing using Pin Yin and character forms. At the end of this unit, they will investigate natural disasters that occur in China, and present their findings using KeyNote.



Advanced Mathematics

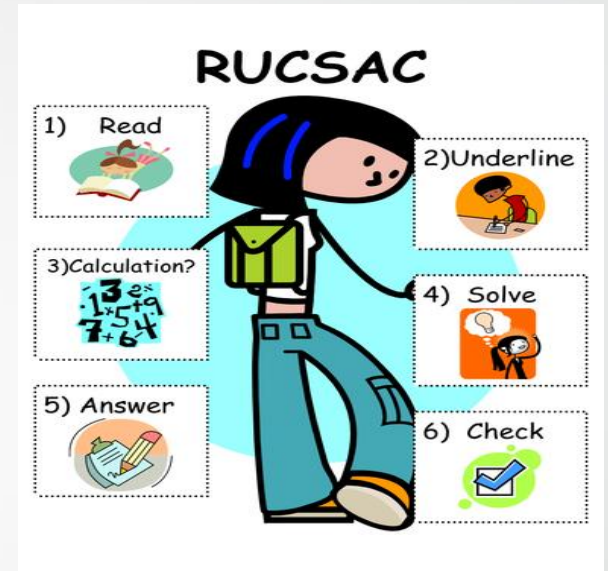
In Term Two, participants in the Advanced Mathematics program will continue to build their capacity to be efficient and effective problem-solvers.

Using RUCSAC (**R**ead, **U**nderline, **C**alculate, **S**olve, **A**nswer and **C**heck) as an overarching scaffold, learners will increase their ability to choose which problem solving strategy, or combination thereof, best suits the style of problem that needs solving.

The second anchor chart (below right), shows strategies learners are encouraged to access during lessons. Through constant practice of these types of strategies, learners will find problem solving becomes more of a natural process. This in turn will set our learners up for success as in the coming term we start to sit the first two of five Maths Olympiads.

Through ensuring learners are well prepared, it is likely that they will enjoy the challenge of tackling the Olympiad process. I am looking forward to another term full of discoveries amongst our brilliant learners!

Sarah Donald, Anat Garzberg, Elizabeth Rennie
Learning Specialists



This is an anchor chart with which all Advanced Mathematics learners are familiar. It ensures that all learners approach problem solving in a systematic and logical way.



Digital Learning & Multimedia

"From phones to cars to medicine, technology touches every part of our lives. If you can create technology you can create the world." – Susan Wojcicki (CEO, YouTube)

Understanding the basics of coding – and programming – is one of the most powerful learning tools available to learners. Computer science concepts also help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills to prepare students for any future career.

Term Two is an exciting time in relation to Digital Technology, with Prep – Year 3 learners afforded the opportunity to build their digital skills. Through targeting specific needs in individual classes, learners will use Dash robots, BeeBots, and Scratch and Scratch Jr to expand their knowledge of coding and programming – building creative thinking skills, logic-based problem-solving strategies, and understanding of terminology such as 'algorithms' and 'variables' and how they can be applied in and out of the classroom.

GWPS' fantastic hard-working Radio Committee will also continue to build their broadcast skills over the course of Term Two, and create more engaging and entertaining radio for the entire school community.

