• **CIS Visitors:** Sunday 9th October 2016 — Friday 14th October 2016

• **SMART 8:** Begins Week 3 of Term 4 (Tuesday 18th October 2016)

• **Cricket Gala Day:** Friday 28th October 2016

• **Music- ‘Count Us In’:** Thursday 3rd November 2016

• **Hands on Science Incursion:** Thursday 17th November 2016 and Thursday 24th November 2016

• **2017 Day:** Thursday 15th December 2016

• **End of year class parties:** Friday 16th December 2016

• **Reports sent home:** Friday 16th December 2016

• **Last Day of Term 4 and final assembly for 2016:** Tuesday 20th December 2016
Level Leader’s Welcome

Welcome back to all Level Five students and parents for the final term of 2016. The year seems to have just flown by with many fantastic school events taking place every term. We wish a warm welcome also to our new students who have started at GWPS recently. Term 4 is a very important term for students wishing to apply for leadership positions next year.

Change Detectives is the title for the Term 4 inquiry unit and it has a Physical Science focus. Change Detectives is a unit which allows students to make links between the world around them and changes that they experience in their everyday lives. It will allow them to create, explore and understand how and why things change. Students will participate in hands-on activities and student-planned investigations. They will create cross-curricular opportunities to apply their learning.

We will be investigating what makes things change, why solids, liquids and gases react differently and how particles move and react as they change. We have an exciting incursion where students will be involved in hands-on experiments which they may wish to recreate with you at home.

Throughout the term, the Home Learning will match the activities undertaken in the classroom and will act as an introduction, application of new understandings, finding out more about a concept and extending their knowledge.

In all, it will be another action-packed term to look forward to, and I hope you can share in the students’ achievements through conversations at home or come to their classrooms and be part of the investigations too.

I am travelling through South America later in the term so would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy completion of 2016 and safe and happy holiday period. I look forward to sharing my adventures with you all when I return in 2017.

Miss Tania Smith
Level 5 Teaching and Learning Leader

Student Leadership

Term Four is a very exciting time for Year Five students. They are only one term away from Year Six and all of the wonderful leadership opportunities that come with the territory. Being a leader in a school is a fantastic experience that enriches students in many ways. They develop leadership skills, communication skills and take on new responsibilities that help them grow as learners and global citizens. The application process and timeline is outlined in the Student Leadership Handbook which is located in classrooms, on Tiqbiz and through Edmodo. It is extremely important all applications are handed in by the deadline, unfortunately late applications will not be accepted so please ensure your child records down important dates so they do not miss out.
You Can Do It!

This term students will continue to develop their skills focusing on Persistence and Resilience.

To develop Persistence students will work towards strengthening and building upon their positive mindset ‘I Can Do It’, ‘Giving Effort’ and ‘Working Tough’. Students will be able to more deeply explain what persistence means and that most successes are due to ‘effort’ and not ‘luck’.

To further develop Resilience students will continue to identify common age-related situations, people and events that lead to students getting very angry, down or worried. They will work towards explaining that there are different intensities of the same feeling young people experience in the face of adversity. Students will learn how to use the ‘catastrophe scale’ to keep things in perspective in order to be resilient.

Mathematics

During Term Four, Level Five students will be engaging in a number of project based learning tasks relating to the three different curriculum areas as Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. These learning tasks will be a culmination of student learning throughout the year and give students an opportunity to further extend themselves. Students will develop budgeting skills relating to percentage, whilst researching the impact of local versus imported foods on the environment. Students will use their creativity to design three-dimensional robots, utilising measurement and geometry concepts. Finally, students will explore statistics and probability using fractions and decimals. Each learning task will be in line with our whole school approach to mathematics, focusing on developing concepts from concrete, to pictorial, to abstract.
Writing

In Term Four we will continue to implement our Whole School Approach to writing utilising the VOICES traits of writing. Our goal is to identify what good writers do, use real writers as mentors and build writing stamina. Students will continue to collect ‘seeds’ which they grow ideas from and use to develop their own pieces of writing they are passionate about. As well as having opportunities to craft writing of their choice, students will also build upon their knowledge of explanation texts and speech writing. Through a series of targeted mini lessons and teacher conferences, students will learn about concepts such as; the qualities of a good speech, developing a strong voice, using interesting and memorable phrases and writing with cohesion and good control of sentence fluency.

How can I help at home??

At home remind your child to collect ‘seeds’ for their independent writing. ‘Seeds’ could be movie tickets, newspaper articles, photos, plane tickets - the possibilities are endless.

Speaking and Listening

In Level 5, one of our key focuses for this term will be to develop students’ capacity to speak in front of larger audiences. As students prepare for their transition into Year 6, they are expected to soon become leaders of our school and will require confidence and proficient communication skills to do so. The ability to speak skilfully is not only key to becoming a well-rounded communicator or negotiator but can enhance one’s likelihood of gaining recognition, confidence and power, and personal growth and well-being. In Term Four, students will undertake role-plays to convey scientific concepts, 3-way speaking and listening conferences involving co-constructed rubrics and use digital tools such as Seesaw to review and evaluate their progress. Within role-plays, students will show creativity in how they can engage, communicate and negotiate with others effectively. Peer conferences, on the other hand, will offer opportunities for students to examine specific traits of ‘what makes a good listener’. In practice for public performances (or ‘performative talk’), students will be guided with appropriate modelling and functional language that prepares them for their future leadership positions and their final year of primary schooling. For more information regarding the importance of ‘Speaking and Listening’, please refer to the below:

‘Teaching Listening and Speaking – from Theory to Practice’ by Jack C. Richards
‘Speaking and Listening Resource Book’ – by First Steps, Department of Education
http://oer.educ.cam.ac.uk/wiki/The_Importance_of_Speaking_and_Listening
**Inquiry– Change Detectives**

During Term 4 in Science, students will engage in a Chemistry unit of inquiry. This inquiry allows students to make links between the world around them and changes that they experience in their everyday lives. It will allow them to create, explore and understand how and why things change. Students will participate in hands-on learning tasks and student-planned investigations. They will create cross-curricular opportunities to apply their learning. Students will form a conceptual understanding of how the whole world is made up of particles that are constantly moving and reacting with each other. The following are focus questions that will guide students inquiry during the term:

1. What makes things change?
2. Why do solids, liquids and gases react differently?
3. How do particles move and react as they change?
4. How does our understanding of physical and chemical change in everyday materials impact on our lives?

**Reading**

During Term Four, Level Five students will be engaging in a number of reading strategies to further develop and deepen their reading comprehension skills. Students will focus on language features used in imaginative, informative and persuasive texts as well as using comprehension strategies to interpret and analyse information and ideas, comparing from a variety of textual sources including media and digital texts. Year 5 students will have the opportunity to analyse and evaluate similarities and differences in traditional fairy tales from different regions of the world i.e. looking at the same tale from two different countries and how are they the same and/or different. Furthermore students will begin to recognise that ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses. Students will continue making connections ‘text to text’, ‘text to self’ and ‘text to world’ utilising their ‘just right’ book.