Welcome

Being teachers of your children is an incredible privilege and honour. We have enjoyed getting to know them and have noticed many students rising to the challenge of being leaders of the school. They have been developing maturity and a better understanding of the impact they have as role models for the younger students.

We have had a wonderful start to the year and are very fortunate to be using brand new classrooms. Both students and teachers are enjoying the use of the wide open spaces and we look forward to the interactive projectors being installed soon.

The area outside the new classrooms has been levelled and covered with top soil. Students are currently involved in the planning and design process to create an effective outdoor space for the use of the school community.

We are looking forward to another wonderful year at Glen Waverley Primary School.

Year 6 Teachers

Lindy Tran, Jen Tzimas, Claire Gooch, and Sam Laffy

IMPORTANT DATES

Year 6 Summer Sport Round
Robin Day
Friday 27th February
Swimming Program
(Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays only)
2nd – 4th March, 9th – 11th March

Athletics Day
Thursday 5th March
School Photo Day
Friday 6th March
Labour Day – No School
Monday 9th March
District Athletics
Friday 20th March
Multicultural Assembly
Monday 23rd March
Cultural Diversity Week
Monday 23rd to Friday 27th March
Harmony Day
Tuesday 24th March
Monash City Council Excursion
Wednesday 25th March
Twilight Sports (evening)
Wednesday 25th March
Final Day of Term 1
2:30pm finish
Friday 27th March
Writing

This year, the students will continue to use VOICES to guide their writing. The acronym stands for: Voice, Organisation, Ideas, Conventions, Excellent word choice and Sentence fluency. An understanding and command of each of these elements is important to writing. The Year Six students are given the responsibility of selecting an area to focus on. This allows them to reflect on their learning and empowers them to improve their writing.

During Term One we are focusing on expositions. Students will be challenged to find evidence to support their opinions and clearly explain their ideas. As they develop their writing techniques they will move towards composing academic essays. During this process they will have the opportunity to work on their VOICES Goal and learn more about the elements of sophisticated writing.

Reading

The CAFE program allows for each student to make their learning personal to them, by setting goals to improve their reading. The goals are based on the CAFE menu of Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding vocabulary. These are the broad elements students need to read. In Year Six the students choose a goal that they feel will challenge them and improve their reading.

In Year Six we have linked the reading and writing programs to give the students effective support in developing their literacy. In reading, the students will learn how to identify Bias and Prejudice, Fact and Opinion, and Inferential Comprehension. They will be using these skills while writing their persuasive pieces.
This year at Glen Waverley Primary School, there is a great focus on the teaching and learning of Mathematics. Staff will be working with a consultant, Ryan Dunn, to develop a whole-school approach to how we teach Mathematics and further develop how we intertwine the four proficiency strands of Reasoning, Fluency, Problem Solving and Understanding into our Mathematics teaching and assessment.

In Term One this year, Year Six students will be covering all three areas of Mathematics; Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. In Number and Algebra, students will be focussing on place-value, deepening their understanding of how to use the four operations effectively and further investigating the application of BODMAS. In Measurement and Geometry, students will be working through a real-life application project relating to designing the new outdoor learning space outside the Year Five and Six portables. This project will focus on using measurement, finding the area and perimeter of irregular shapes and creating scaled designs. In Statistics and Probability, students will design and deliver a survey to collect data about their classmates. They will then represent this information in a variety of graphs and learn to analyse the data and draw mathematical conclusions.

In addition, Year Six students who received an ‘A’ in all areas of Mathematics in their December 2014 report will participate in the Advanced Maths program. This will be delivered by Mr Di Xue and will focus on extending these students’ understanding of various mathematical concepts through problem-solving and authentic, project-based learning tasks.

If you have any questions relating to Mathematics in Term One, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s classroom teacher.
ICT

ICT is an exciting part of the Glen Waverley Primary School curriculum. In Term One the Year Six students will become more effective in utilising their iPads, and engage with their creative streaks, while using a variety of educational applications and software.

Bringing knowledge and expertise from last year, students will be using their devices as an integral part of their classroom tasks by demonstrating their ICT knowledge by filming, hyperlinking, presenting, collaborating and reflecting on their learning. They will also be challenged to use new programs while acquiring new skills.

Students will create a high quality piece of media that will demonstrate their deep understanding of fact and opinion, and bias and prejudice. Additionally, students will be using their iPads as learning tools during our Inquiry sessions on democracy by creating political campaigns, presentations and iMovies highlighting why a democratic society is valued in Australia.

The iPads are used in class to facilitate collaborative learning. Through the use of applications such as Flick, Air Server, and email the students create a community where they share and provide feedback on each others work. Each student has also access to their GlenPS email from home, which they can use to access home learning tasks. Cybersafety sessions are continuing, giving students a clear understanding of how to use the technology efficiently and safely. These sessions are continually evolving to meet the changing needs of our school community as the technology changes and develops.

iPad Agreements have been sent home to provide students with an understanding of the responsibility required to use their iPads successfully as a learning tool, and students are set up to begin working with Digital Excellence, Mathletics, Reading Eggspress, Spellodrome, and Edmodo in and outside of school.
During Term One the Year Six students will be exploring the topic “What are the rights and responsibilities of people within democracy?” This unit focuses on developing students’ understanding of Australian History, and Civics and Citizenship.

The main focus questions are:

- What are the responsibilities of our elected representatives?
- How do we ensure a democracy is fair?
- How have laws developed in Australia?

In first few weeks of the term, students have developed a better understanding of democracy and fairness. They will learn about the roles of elected representatives and how laws are made. To support students’ learning, they will be attending an excursion to the Monash City Council on Wednesday 25th March. They will be given the opportunity to ask council members questions about their roles and responsibilities.

As Global Citizens, students will be encouraged to explore and analyse other forms of government from around the world. This will assist with the development of their own inquiry question which will drive the direction of their personal learning. Students will present their findings at the end of the term to their peers to show and reflect on their learning journey.

HOME LEARNING

Glen Waverley Primary School is committed to providing students with personalised learning. Home Learning tasks are aimed at complementing and extending what students have achieved in the classroom. Each week Home Learning addresses a range of curriculum areas; English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Spelling, and Interpersonal Development.

This provides students with the opportunity to elaborate and explore concepts more deeply. Students are also given open-ended learning tasks that allow them to achieve their personal best. This ensures that each student’s needs are addressed, whilst encouraging students to extend their understanding.

Home Learning tasks are also targeted to supporting the Level Five and Six’s one-to-one iPad program. Each week students are required to complete a variety of tasks utilizing a range of iPad applications such as: Mathletics, Reading Eggspress, Spellodrome, and Edmodo.