WELCOME TO TERM 2!

Wow, where did Term One go?

The Year 6 team is ready for yet another exciting and challenging term filled with powerful learning and unforgettable experiences. Here is a taste for what’s in store this term, just to name a few:

- Interschool Sport
- Science Fair and Open Night
- IMAX and Melbourne Museum Excursion
- ANZAC Day Commemorative Ceremony
- Power of One Incursion
- Advanced Art Program
- Reports
- Student-Led Conferences

We can’t wait to embark on yet another invaluable learning journey with your children this term!

Several students’ designs from the Year 6 Outdoor Learning Space Maths Project have been selected to inform what the area outside the Year 6 portables will look like. Congratulations to …… for having their outstanding designs selected.

Here’s to another wonderful term with the Year 6 students at Glen Waverley Primary School!

Year 6 Teachers

Lindy Tran, Jen Tzimas, Claire Gooch and Sam Laffy.
Our English Learning

Reading

During Term Two, the Year Six students will be focusing on their comprehension skills. To complement the writing program, we will be learning to interpret diagrams and images, synthesise texts and recognise cause and effect. The students will be encouraged and supported to transfer these skills when writing scientific reports.

The CAFE program is continuing, and as Term Two begins, students have been conferring with their teachers and setting new reading goals. The students will be learning to present their goals and collect feedback from their peers.

Writing

This term, our writing unit is all about science! The students will be learning to write scientific laboratory reports, which builds on their knowledge of procedural texts. Already, the students have been introduced to the more sophisticated layout of laboratory reports, and they are excited to begin the unit. During the term they will learn how to form a hypothesis, write an abstract, record results, analyse results and reflect on their data.

As the students learn the structural elements of a laboratory reports, they will use VOICES to guide their stylistic development. As well as setting individual writing goals, the students will learn how each of the VOICES elements relates to scientific reports.
INQUIRY LEARNING

This term’s science inquiry topic is titled “Earthquake Explorers”. This unit focuses on developing students’ scientific understanding of earthquakes and the human impact on extreme weather conditions.

The main focus questions that will be used to guide student learning are:

· Which geological changes cause earthquakes to occur?
· What are the compositional layers of Earth?
· What technology has been developed to detect and measure extreme weather conditions?
· What human decisions and actions impact upon extreme weather conditions around the world?

In first week of this term, students have completed a pre-test to find out what they know about Earthquakes and natural disasters. They have applied their understanding of scale and ratios to complete an accurate representation of the layers of the earth. This was a challenging task and the students should be commended on their persistence.

To further their learning, students will be attending an excursion to the IMAX and the Melbourne Museum, where they will be watching a movie called Forces of Nature and visiting various exhibitions including the Dynamic Earth exhibition.

As Global Citizens, students will be encouraged to analyse how their actions can impact on the environment around them. They will develop an inquiry question about what they can do to help and prevent natural disasters from occurring. Students will present their findings at the end of the term to their peers to celebrate and reflect on their learning journey.
HOME LEARNING

In Term Two, Home Learning will continue to be aimed at complementing and extending what students have achieved in the classroom. Each week the Home Learning will address a range of curriculum areas, however the major focus for the first half of Term Two will be the Science Fair. Students have been given guidelines for their Science Fair Projects, which will be showcased on Thursday 21st May. As this is a large project that entails a fair amount of preparation and time, each week the Home Learning will stipulate which parts of the project need to be completed. A timeline has also been provided in the guidelines to assist parents and students to plan their time effectively and know what is due when.

As always, please forward any queries you have to your child’s classroom teacher.

As we continue to develop our whole-school approach to teaching Mathematics at Glen Waverley Primary School, the focus has shifted away from purely getting the correct answer. We are now placing more emphasis on the process of finding the answer and are encouraging students to engage in sharing their problem solving strategies through regular ‘Number Talks’. These ‘Number Talks’ allow students to learn from each other and vocalise their thought process when solving problems. This has enabled students to feel more comfortable making mistakes as they are eager to learn from their mistakes and learn from others.

In Term Two, the Year 6 students will again be covering different concepts across all areas of Mathematics.

In Number and Algebra, students will be focusing on fractions, decimals and percentages.

In Measurement and Geometry, students will be focusing on angles in a triangle, analysing and creating timetables, and location.

In Statistics and Probability, students will be looking at probability. They will also be completing a mini-project where they will be analysing various statistics relating to the top 10 largest earthquakes recorded, and displaying this data.

As always, concepts will be taught using hand-on experiences, ICT and authentic experiences that link back to real-life.

ICT

Over the holidays, each Level 6 classroom had an interactive projector installed in their classroom – an addition that has transformed the new portables into true 21st Century learning spaces. ICT is one of the most important curriculum areas at Glen Waverley Primary School, and Term Two will see students continue to work multi-modally on learning tasks - utilising written and visual aspects to create interactive presentations and projects. Opening up opportunities for interactive teaching and learning the installation of the projectors has been met with much excitement by teachers and students!

Edmodo is also up and running in the classroom. The website is an online learning platform to enhance learning opportunities available to your children, and provides a safe place for students to connect, share, and receive class information. It will provide your child with a digital platform on which to undertake Home Learning, receive meaningful real-time feedback from teachers, and engage in collaborative learning.

Of course, in Term Two Students will continue to use their iPads during learning sessions for research, publishing, online interacives, creating and presenting, and all the other wonderful learning opportunities afforded by their use. Each Level 6 classroom will also soon have a new iPad Air for use in Term Two.

Additionally online programs such as Digital Excellence, Mathletics, Reading Eggspress, and Spellodrome will be used in and outside of school to link students’ learning to their home environment.