Welcome
Welcome back to another fantastic term at Glen Waverley Primary School. I hope you have all had a wonderful, safe and enjoyable holiday. I would like to welcome all new and returning families to our wonderful school.

The National Assessment, NAPLAN, will take place from Tuesday May 10th until Thursday, May 12th. The test questions are related to the curriculum being studied by the students in their classrooms and the results will help us guide and develop student performance at Glen Waverley Primary.

The annual Science Fair is occurring in Week 9 and this is a fantastic occasion for students to display their science knowledge and skills. Parents will also have an opportunity to visit our school during our Open Evening (as part of Education Week celebrations) on Wednesday 25th May where they can see technology and Maths in action.

As part of our Inquiry unit on ‘Desert Survivors,’ students will be visiting Melbourne Zoo on Wednesday, June 1st. Students will be able to interact with some of the animals as well as having a zoologist speak to them about animal adaptations.

The Level 5 team looks forward to working with you and your children over the next term.

Thank you,
Miss Tania Smith
Teaching and Learning Leader

NAPLAN
Each year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are assessed on the same days using national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. This year the NAPLAN tests will occur Tuesday 10th May – Thursday 12th May.

NAPLAN tests skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN tests are one aspect of each school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

Tuesday 10th May
Before recess: Language Conventions - 40 minutes
After recess: Writing - 40 minutes
Wednesday 11th May: Reading - 45 minutes
Wednesday 12th May: Numeracy - 45 minutes

Further information about the assessment including sample NAP assessments and frequently asked questions may be accessed at the official website: www.nap.edu.au
**English**

At Glen Waverley Primary School our English program is based around research on ‘best’ literacy practice, the Victorian Curriculum and most importantly, the needs of our students. Each student has individualised goals and are supported to achieve them through targeted teaching as well as one on one conferencing with their teacher. The following is an overview of what to expect in Term Two English at GWPS.

**Reading:**
Reading sessions in Year 5 are comprised of a mini lesson, guided/ independent practice and independent reading time. During the mini lesson and guided/independent practice, students learn and trial a reading ‘strategy’. During Term Two some of the strategies students will be learning include: identifying literary elements (such as characters, plot and settings), recognising cause and effect relationships, predicting and inferring.

**Writing:**
Research tells us that good writers have choice over what they write, are given time to write frequently and have a mentor to guide and model writing for them (the teacher). It is also vital that students write for a specific purpose. In Writing in Term Two, students will be exposed to all these factors as they continue exploring ideas in their writer’s notebook. They will also be focusing on the narrative genre as they write, design and construct a picture story e-book for their prep buddy. As NAPLAN testing is in Week 5 students will be practising their persuasive and narrative writing in the lead up in order to set themselves up for success.

**Speaking and Listening:**
Speaking and listening is an extremely important skill that allows learners to gain knowledge, communicate effectively, articulate thinking and form social relationships. To continue building upon the students’ capacity in this area, students will be given regular opportunities to speak and discuss with classmates in small group and whole group settings. They will also be expected to complete an inquiry project in which they will self-assess their speaking skills and choose an area of improvement to focus on.

**Mathematics**

Throughout Term Two, students will continue to utilise the seven math norms in order to develop their thinking using math and number talks. This term students will be focusing on learning and practising various problem solving strategies as they prepare for the NAPLAN – Numeracy assessment.

Students will build a thorough knowledge of fractions, developing their skills in converting between decimals and percentages, finding common denominator and simplifying fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and multiplying and dividing fractions.

Students will continue to extend their understandings of measurement using perimeter, area, converting units of measurement and ratio. Students will also develop strategies in measuring time using authentic timetabling learning tasks. The 1-to-1 iPad program will be utilised in order provide students with authentic budgeting learning tasks in which students will need to find and compare prices when planning recipes.

The Advanced Mathematics Program will continue to cater to 20 Level 5 students. These sessions are aimed at extending students that have demonstrated high levels of achievement in mathematics. The Advanced Mathematics Program will continue to be run by our mathematics specialist Di Xue.
Inquiry
In Inquiry this term, Level 5 will be focusing on the unit “Desert Survivors” as a science investigation. The unit will explore biological science. Students will look at plant and animal adaptations in order to discover how living things change in order to survive and thrive in hostile environments. The students will identify and distinguish between different physical and behavioural adaptations, and understand adaptation as part of an evolutionary process over time. They will also look at the way in which different human societies are able to survive under harsh desert conditions and other habitats. To complement their learning, Level 5 students will undertake an excursion to Melbourne Zoo to complete the exciting and hands-on learning program, “Save our species: call of the wild!”

Science Fair
Term Two is extremely exciting for science fans at Glen Waverley PS with the annual Science Fair taking place in Week 9. This event allows students to follow their passion and investigate an area of science that compliments their interests! Throughout the term, students will plan, research, experiment and report on a science experiment of their choice. Students will get to show off their learning and hard work to the whole school community during the week and each class will be on display.

ICT
Throughout Term Two, the Year 5’s will continue to utilise ICT in a variety of ways. They will be creating exciting hyperlinked keynotes, accessing applications such as Reading Eggs and Mathletics and making iMovies to demonstrate their understanding of concepts they have learned in class.

This term we will be using Edmodo, online networking, as a communication tool. It allows and enhances communication within the class and encourages students to share their work safely and privately with their teachers and classmates. Teachers are able to share learning tasks, resources and home learning with the students on a digital platform to enrich their learning experience. Edmodo is based on the ideas of social networking but it is a safe and controlled environment appropriate for school. In Edmodo each class group is managed and controlled by the teacher, students can only communicate to the whole class or to the teacher and private messages between students are not possible.

You Can Do It!
Welcome to Term Two ‘You Can Do It’, where the primary focus will be exploring the ‘Confidence Key’ and ‘Resilience Key’.

Confidence: There is little question that the most direct road to developing or increasing student confidence is through successful experiences. No matter how positive a student’s approach to schoolwork, positive attitudes, including self-belief, can be ground down by repeated negative experiences. Students will focus on four key areas to build their confidence and continue to build a positive mindset.

1. Accepting Myself – accepting yourself even when you make a mistake or someone is mean to you.
2. Tasking Risks– knowing that it is good to try new activities even when you might not be able to do them at first.
3. Being Independent– thinking that it’s important to try new activities and to speak up even if classmates think you’re silly or stupid.
4. I Can Do It– thinking that when you are having difficulty with your work, it is more likely you will be successful than not.
Furthermore students will reflect on attitudes that have the potential to affect them in negative ways of thinking. These include, self-downing, needing to be perfect, needing approval and an ‘I can’t do it’ attitude. Students will have the opportunity to identify and discuss these negative ways of thinking and help students replace it with more positive attributes that are listed above.

**Resilience:** All children and young people are faced with considerable demands, challenges, frustrations, difficulties and setbacks, it is vital that they have developmentally-appropriate levels of resilience skills. During this term students will work towards developing the following elements of resilience

- Staying calm in the face of difficult or challenging situations, people and events.
- Controlling one’s behaviour when one does get extremely upset by not fighting or withdrawing for too long
- Calming down within a developmentally-appropriate time
- Bouncing back to work and play

We sincerely thank you for your interest in and passion for your child’s education and taking the time to read about our learning foci for Term Two. We look forward to working with you throughout the term as we continue to set up each and every student for success. Expressions of interest for the Year 5 camp will be sent out soon. Our fabulous camp will be held in Week 2 of Term 3 so bookings and payment will need to be finalised before the end of Term 2. If you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s classroom teacher.

**Level 5 Team**

Miss Tania Smith, Miss Simone Ryan, Mr. Paul Austin, Miss Penelope Kolovos, Mr. Jeff Chen, Mrs. Nicole Pryde, Mrs. Liz Steinke and Mrs. Samantha Pergadis