Welcome back to another exciting term of learning and new experiences.

CURRICULUM

ENGLISH

Reading
This term, the Level Two will continue to use the CAFÉ reading program which focuses strongly on comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary in reading. Reading goals are used as part of CAFÉ to ensure the program caters for a variety of individual learning needs. Students also have a chance to reflect and work on these goals with their classroom teacher in regular reading conferences. Students will work on determining the ‘author’s purpose’ of a variety of texts and decide whether they are written to persuade, inform or entertain the reader; this allows students to become experts at choosing books for the right purpose. Students will also be learning to expand their vocabulary through using dictionaries and thesauruses and will use their interesting word choices throughout their writing during this term. To work on fluency,
students will be participating in ‘reader’s theatre’ where they learn the features of fairy tales and practise reading using accuracy and expression.

**Writing**

In writing, Level Two will continue to use the VOICES writing program which focuses on students using their own voice, organisation, ideas, conventions, excellent word choice and sentence fluency. To support students to achieve their writing goals they will focus on specific genres of poetry where they will learn a variety of features that make up each poem. Students will also focus on ‘excellent word choice’ and will be encouraged to be expressive and creative in their writing. Some of the poetry types that Level Two will cover are Haiku, Acrostic, Palindrome, Cinquain and Concrete poems. Narrative writing will be a strong focus this term with students encouraged to use their writer’s notebooks for their writing ideas and seeds. Students will be taken through the full writing process which includes planning, drafting, and publishing.

**MATHEMATICS**

‘Math is about connections and communicating’ - Jo Boaler

During Term Three, students will continue to build and deepen their Mathematical knowledge and understanding in different areas through various open-ended and hands-on learning tasks.

In Number and Algebra, students will consolidate their knowledge of Place Value, exploring the connections between Addition and Subtraction and experiencing the Australian currency through a variety of authentic learning tasks.

In Measurement and Geometry, students will learn how to measure and calculate Length and Area using both formal and informal measuring tools and units. Likewise, they will compare and order volume and capacity of different containers. Students will also learn how to interpret and create simple maps and provide instructions using the language of Location.

Following Ryan Dunn’s involvement in developing Glen Waverley Primary School’s whole school approach towards teaching and learning mathematics, the Year Two cohort has and continues to work hard to develop a common mathematics language to express understandings. Emphasis is placed on creating a learning environment that supports critical thinking whereby the process of Mathematics learning is valued more than the outcome.

Every student learns and masters’ mathematical concepts at different rates, therefore the teaching of Mathematics will build on the familiar; students’ prior knowledge often
beginning with hands on materials and working towards solving similar problems in their pictorial and abstract representations. Exposure and time dedicated to learners solving open-ended tasks will provide all students with multiple entry and exit points as well as an opportunity to justify or challenge their thinking and reflect on their learning.

The use of timely, on-going assessment has proved to be a vital tool in monitoring students’ Mathematical Fluency as well as for classroom teachers in identifying the varied teaching points at which to build the necessary knowledge, skills and concepts for each individual.

The Advanced Mathematics Program will continue to cater to eight Level 2 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 (Humanities focus)

Our Inquiry topic for Term Three is based on Landmarks and Localities. More specifically, students will investigate “Why do groups of people change their location?” Year Two students are going to explore, recognise and appreciate the history of their local environment by examining the remains of the ‘past’ in contrast to the ‘present’. They will use this knowledge to infer future growth within the local and global environment and the ways in which this can be sustained. Students will identify the reasons as to why groups of people, events, sites or locations have either changed over recent times or remained the same. In doing so, the unit will expose students to the life of Australian traditional owners, aided through an interactive storytelling and dance workshop incursion. Here students will learn many aspects of traditional and contemporary Aboriginal culture, customs and experiences.

To develop students’ historical understanding the following key concepts will be covered:
Continuity and change.
Cause and effect.
Perspectives.
Empathy and significance.

To support students’ learning, an incursion titled exploring the stories of the first people who migrated to Australia will be presented by ‘The History Box’. There is no doubt this experience will build on students’ perspective of how the country became so diverse.

This Inquiry topic offers a wonderful opportunity for students to collaborate with families given Glen Waverley Primary School’s diversity in backgrounds and journeys travelled.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY
→ ICAS Exams- Tuesday 2nd August - English
→ The History Box- Thursday, August 11th
→ ICAS exams- Tuesday 16th August - Mathematics
→ Contemporary Aboriginal Dance Workshop Friday, August 19th
→ Late Night at school-Thursday, August 18th

Please refer to the fortnightly newsletter for further information and updates about whole school events.

SPECIALIST TIMETABLE- From 25th July

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*ART & MUSIC alternates each week

We hope this newsletter gives you a better insight and understanding of your child’s exciting learning journey during Term Three. If you require further information please speak to your child’s classroom teacher.

Introducing Miss Erica Coleman who is the new face to the Year Two Team who brings with her a variety of teaching experiences to GWPS. Erica will be teaching 2MT for the remainder of the year. Please make her feel welcomed by popping in and saying hello, don’t forget to come and visit the rest of the team.

Kindest Regards,

Ms. Manuela Pertile (Level Leader), Miss Rebecca Young, Miss Ruby Robertson and Miss Erica Coleman