Welcome to Term Four

Welcome back to our families of old and welcome to our new families who have joined us in Term Four. We have a fun and amazing Term planned with lots of wonderful and challenging opportunities that lay ahead.

We would like to send a huge thank you to our parent community for having their children at school on time each morning. With our hectic modern lives it is important that we make effective use of our time.

Thank you also to our wonderful mums and dads who volunteer their time to help our school. Whether it be in the classroom, helping with Cheese Toastie and Milo Day, ordering for and organizing our Father’s Day stall, we Thank you!

Without the help of our families, Glen Waverley Primary School would not be the amazing education setting that it is today.

Read on to find out more about the engaging teaching and learning we have planned for this term.
Level One and Two

English

Reading

This term we are continuing with our Whole School approach to reading, using the CAFÉ reading program. This program emphasises the importance of comprehension alongside accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. The children will be finalising their individual reading goals and be given many opportunities for personalised one on one conferencing with the classroom teacher. The students will also be undertaking formal assessments to determine student’s individual reading ability to enable the teachers to address individual points of need.

This term in year one and two, we have been revising some of the reading strategies that were introduced throughout the year as well as introducing some new strategies. Some of the reading strategies that we will be focusing on this Term include:

* Non-fiction features
* Non-fiction structures
* Adjust and apply reading rates
* Tuning in to interesting words
* Use the main idea to determine importance
* Use word parts to determine the meaning of new words
* Voracious reading

As the CAFÉ reading program is a whole school approach, each classroom in the school has a CAFÉ menu or display to demonstrate the particular reading skills that we have been learning about in our classroom each day. You are more than welcome to come in and have a look! Each child and their teacher has worked together to create individualised learning goals, for students to become the best readers possible. This happens during conferencing in our reading sessions, where the teacher has one on one time with each student.

To compliment this program, each child is expected to have a take home book to practice their independent and shared reading skills at home. While your child is reading as part of their home learning, you may like to ask them what their reading goal is. These reading goals are changed depending on their personalised needs. The students should be very happy to teach you about their goals!

Happy reading!

Spelling

Each student has the opportunity to improve their spelling through a combination of explicit spelling lessons, individualised spelling words and words related to class discussions. Spelling with meaning and looking at strategies to improve accuracy is a key component of the program.

Speaking and Listening

Students have the opportunity to improve their speaking and listening skills through presenting their work, group discussions and hands-on activities that promote and target oral language skills.

Reading Recovery

Students who are on our Reading Recovery Program are making terrific progress and are enjoying the success they are achieving through the one-to-one instruction.
Term Four is very exciting as students continue to work on our Whole School approach to writing using VOICES.

Writing Genres that will be covered this term include:

- Holiday Recounts
- Information Reports (Year 1 and 2)
- Procedural Texts (Year 1)
- Narrative Texts (Year 2)

The end of the Term will allow the students to choose a writing genre of their choice to write about a topic of their choice. This way, the children are able to demonstrate the learning as well as apply this to a topic of their choice, paving the way for student voice.

Combined with learning about different writing genres, students will also continue to develop the ‘seeds’ in their Writer’s Notebook. It is so amazing to see the level of interest and enthusiasm sky rocket in writing. The children love their daily writing sessions and eagerly await the hour each day in which they can release their creative flair!

Congratulations to all the students in Year One and Year Two who have worked so diligently on formulating their own writing goal, a chance to personalise their own learning!
Reader Bags and Communication Diaries

Each student in Level 1 and Level 2 has a school issued diary. This is brought to school everyday and is used to track home reading and for communication between the teacher and parents.

Parents are encouraged to communicate via the diary, which is checked by the teacher. Parents, please sign the diary each day as you fill in the reading log, showing what you have heard your child read.

To compliment the CAFE reading program, each child is expected to have a “take home book” to practice their independent and shared reading skills at home. We recommend that your child discusses the story with you.

Music

In Level One and Two, students are required to have a flutophone for their music lessons. These can be purchased from the school office. They are similar to the recorder, but the fingering holes are closer together with a raised edge, specifically designed for little fingers.

Art

Our Uniform Shop does sell art smocks, but you can also purchase an art smock from many different outlets. The main thing is to ensure your child has a smock that is waterproof, with long sleeves, that covers as much of their school uniform as possible.

Swimming

As part of the school’s comprehensive Sport and Physical Education Program, the Level 1 and 2 students will be given the invaluable opportunity to participate in 8 intensive swimming lessons at Just Swimming Syndal. Swimming skills, particularly among children are fundamental to every individual’s safety and overall motor skill development. Students who will not be participating in swimming lessons will remain at school to explore a unit on ‘Water Safety’.
Mathematics

During Term 4, students will continue to build on their knowledge that they have already established. Level One and Two students will be introduced to Division and will be provided with many opportunities to practice sharing using concrete material as well as solving worded problems. As a lead on from Division, students will then be introduced to Fractions. They will gain an understanding of what the term fraction is as well as recognising it in authentic situations, such as seeing a sign in a shop window ‘1/2 price sale. What does this mean? Students will then move on to recognising what a half and a quarter is as a whole and within a group.

In Geometry and Measurement, students will investigate Capacity using jugs, cups and water. For Mass they will use a pan balance to find items of equal weight. Level One and Two will also learn about perimeter and area. They will use formal and informal units to measure various objects.

Students will be enthusiastic and motivated as all of the maths learning tasks will be integrated within the unit of inquiry for the term.

Individualised Teaching Practice

All students master Mathematical concepts at different rates, therefore the teaching of Mathematics includes activities with multiple entry and exit points to enable open-ended learning tasks.

Nude Food

At Glen Waverley Primary School we encourage all students to bring “Nude Food” to school. This means that food is brought to school in reusable containers without wrappers. By doing this, we can reduce the amount of rubbish that gets into our yard and helps

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders can be ordered from Balanced Living Catering, a reputable company trusted to handle our school lunch order program. Lunch orders can be ordered online at http://www.flexischools.com.au. Parents will need to set up an account to begin, but the process is easy with step by step instructions.

Lunch orders are delivered at 1.30pm so please ensure you provide your child with a healthy snack and brain food

Brain Food

At 10.00 am each day, students are encouraged to have ‘brain food’. This is either fruit or vegetables and is helpful in keeping the children’s brains nourished and ready to learn. It is helpful if the fruit and vegetables are cut up ready to be eaten quickly to avoid taking along time to eat.
Inquiry Learning

At Glen Waverley Primary School, we are committed to actively leading curriculum development in Australia. In response to the new National Curriculum Guidelines, we are very excited as we engage in programs that are educationally sound and provide the students with a variety of opportunities to learn and inquire as they develop their “globalized learning”.

Level One Unit: “School Yard Safari”

In Year One, our Science Topic is ‘School Yard Safari’. This exploration unit provides students with shared, hands-on experiences of the features, behaviours and habitats of small creatures in our school yard environment. Students will have the opportunity to investigate why mini-beasts have a variety of external features and live in different places. Our focus questions are:

1. What are living things?
2. How are mini-beasts different to insects?
3. How do mini-beasts change and develop over time? (Life-cycles)
4. Why are mini-beasts an important part of the environment?
5. How can we look after our environment to preserve the habitats of mini-beasts?

Students are very excited to participate in a range of hands-on learning experiences such as touching and caring for stick insects as well as scouring our school with magnified specimen jars to find a range of different creepy crawlies to investigate!

Level Two Unit: “Push and Pull”

In Year Two, students are taking part in an inquiry topic titled ‘Push and Pull’. Students are excited to investigate and take part in a range of activities that explore four key concepts:

1. Gravity
2. Inertia
3. Floating and sinking
4. Magnetism

The inquisitive minds of Year 2 are already exploring the forces involved in a game of ‘tug-o-war’ and will soon participate in building their own ‘Newton’s Cradle’ to explore the laws of motion, create their own magnetic maze, hypothesise and test a range of items as to whether they will float or sink and test a range of weights on different types of toy cars to investigate inertia.

It is going to be a hands-on, fun and fulfilling Term 4 of Science learning for both Year One and Year Two students!
Extra Curricular Activities for Term Four

Term 4 is shaping up to be a very exciting Term for the Level 1 and 2 students. The teachers have planned many exciting activities, aimed at enriching the student’s learning experiences.

Late Night at School!

As an introduction to our school’s Outdoor Education Program, the Level One and Two Students are invited to attend “A Late Night At School” event to be held on Friday 24th October.

The night will include games, dinner and a movie. The night will commence at 3.30pm and therefore parents do not need to collect their children straight after school. The event will finish at 7.30pm and parents will be expected to sign their child out before picking them up.

The games will be run directly after school, followed by a pizza dinner with a variety of toppings, including a vegetarian option. After dinner, students will be watching a “G” rated movie. We also encourage all of the students to bring their pyjamas to school to change into before the start of the movie.

Crazy Hair Day!

On Wednesday 22nd October, the students at Glen Waverley Primary School will be holding a “Crazy Hair Day” to raise money for the Cancer Council. Students are asked to donate a gold coin to participate and support this very worthy cause.

Melbourne Cup Dress up Day!

On Monday 3rd November, Glen Waverley Primary School will be having a “Melbourne Cup Dress Up Day.” Students have the option to dress up in a suit, dress or even as a horse. Be as creative as you like and be ready for a fun day!
Incursions in Term Four

Incursions are an important part of our curriculum. They provide opportunities for experienced educationalists to bring the outside world into our classrooms. We are excited to be involved in two incursions this term for our Level One and Two students.

Tony Bones Fairytales Incursion

This Term, the Level 1 and 2 students will be participating in an incursion by Tony Bones Entertainment. Tony Bones Entertainment are a national touring theatre company, owned and operated by qualified teachers and present fairy tales and other stories in a fun and engaging manner. The performance the students will view is called ‘Fractured Fairy Tales’. Three traditional fairy tales, including The Three Little Pigs, Billy Goats Gruff and Goldilocks and the Three Bears, are acted out on stage using audience participation, puppetry, song, dance and pantomime. This incursion will occur in the School Hall on Thursday 23rd October.

Professor Bunsen Incursion

Professor Bunsen is a Scientist who performs and presents Science in schools all across Australia. We are lucky to have the services of Professor Bunsen who will present a range of topics in a fun and interactive manner to each Year level across our school.

This will take place in our School Hall on Tuesday 28th October.

This is one incursion not to be missed!

Home Learning

Students in Level One and Two will receive their Home Learning tasks every Friday.

Tasks are due back the following Friday. This allows the students seven days to complete their tasks in an easier timeframe that promotes organisation and independence.

Please refer to the guidelines that have been glued into your child’s Home Learning Book.

Each week, students will be set tasks that compliment what they are already learning in the classroom.

There will be components that include Reading, Mathematics, Spelling, Inquiry and House Points.

Mathletics and Reading Eggs are an essential part of the Home Learning program.

We ask that you read through the guidelines and discuss these with your child to promote the same message about the importance of the Home Learning tasks that they receive from their teachers.
Level One and Two Assembly

Level One and Two assembly is held on a specified Friday afternoon, in the school hall. Assemblies at Glen Waverley Primary School, serve to develop a positive school ethos that affirms the school's identity and aspirations. Assemblies can make a positive contribution to pupil self-development and therefore be at the heart of raising achievement and standards.

At our assemblies we promote the pursuit of excellence in all its forms. Parents are invited to join us for assembly, and in Term Four assembly will commence at 2:45pm and last for about half an hour. This allows enough time for teachers to return to their classrooms where children will then be dismissed. Level assemblies are a time where we can celebrate success with the children and take the opportunity to hand out learning awards. Students have also enjoyed the opportunity in hosting and presenting to our families and communities.

Our Term Four assemblies will be on:

* **Friday, October 31st**
* **Friday, November 28th**.

Icy Pole Day

With the warmer weather rapidly approaching, this Term, the Glen Waverley Primary School Community Relations Team will be selling Icy Poles for **50 cents**.

Students are able to purchase an icypole from our School Leader's in the ELC playground at lunchtime.

Pre-loved games wanted!

Do you have any old board games, card games or craft activities that you know longer use?

We are currently accepting any donations of games for our students to play with on wet-weather days.

If you would like to clear the shelves, scrape some dust off and find any old games you no longer use, we would really appreciate any of these if you would like to donate them.

Many Thanks!

Please talk to your child’s teacher if you would like to help.