Welcome
Welcome back to all Level Five parents for the final term of 2015. We welcome all new parents and students this term to the Glen Waverley Primary School community.
The year has just flown by with so many wonderful school events happening each term, and Term Four is no different. This term, Level 5 students are visiting Scienceworks, applying for leadership roles and are participating in events, such as Music: Count us in and 2016 Day.

It has been fantastic to have seen these children grow socially and academically. They have developed increasing confidence and are encouraged to take risks with their learning, trial new strategies and to persist and ‘never give up.’ All of our students’ have such a positive attitude towards their learning and show great engagement in everything they attempt. It has been an absolute pleasure to have been able to teach your children this year.

Leadership
Term Four is a very exciting time for Year Fives. They are only one term away from Year Six and all of the wonderful leadership opportunities that come with it. Being a leader in a school is a fantastic experience that enriches students in many ways. They develop leadership and communication skills and take on new responsibilities that help them grow as learners and global citizens. This year there are 28 leadership roles students can apply. The application process and timeline is outlined in the Student Leadership Handbook which is located in classrooms, on Tiqbiz and through Edmodo. It is extremely important all applications are handed in by the deadline, unfortunately late applications will not be accepted so please ensure your child records down important dates so they do not miss out.

Peer Mediation
As a part of the students’ preparation for transition into Level Six, each student will be undertaking the Peer Mediation instructional course. Peer Mediation was introduced into GWPS in 2014 with resounding success. The program provides Level Six students with the opportunity to solidify their standing as school leaders, gives students the responsibility and helps to build strong relationships with students from other year levels. The Peer Mediation program links well with our student well-being program ‘You Can Do It’. The program requires students to be able to get along with others, be organised, persistent, resilient and confident. The Peer Mediation training will include practical learning tasks which will encourage students to take initiative, be socially responsible and confident when dealing with difficult situations that they may encounter.
Writing
In Term Four we will continue to implement our Whole School Approach to writing utilising the VOICES 6 traits of writing. Our goal is to identify what good writers do, use real writers as mentors and build writing stamina. Students will continue to collect ‘seeds’ which they grow ideas from and use to develop their own pieces of writing they are passionate about. As well as having opportunities to craft writing of their choice, students will also build upon their knowledge of explanation texts and speech writing. Through a series of targeted mini lessons and teacher conferences students will learn about concepts such as, the qualities of a good speech, developing a strong voice, using interesting and memorable phrases and writing with cohesion and good control of sentence fluency. How can you help at home??
At home remind your child to collect ‘seeds’ for their independent writing. ‘Seeds’ could be movie tickets, newspaper articles, photos; plane tickets the possibilities are endless.

Reading
Throughout Term Four, students will continue to learn new strategies and build their expertise on prior ones. This term, we will focus on the following strategies; bias and prejudice, inferring themes, critiquing and analysing texts, questioning, synthesizing, symbolism, identifying figurative language, using a dictionary and thesaurus. These are designed to support students’ comprehension, fluency, accuracy and vocabulary skillsets. Students will continue to receive individual conferences and individualised reading goals.

Mathematics
Term Four is an exciting time for Mathematics in Level Five. Each of the four classes will be consolidating their use of the “math talks” initiative, which has been one of the major focuses of our whole school approach to professional learning. Students in Level Five will continue to develop and enrich their learning of mathematics by using deep and considered questioning techniques. The curriculum foci for Term Four will include; algebra, data interpretation, two-dimensional shapes, three-dimensional shapes, mapping and Cartesian Planes. A focus of the Level Five team in Term Four is to make greater curriculum links. Consequently, the data interpretation unit will be significantly linked to the writing and reading focus of environmental sustainability. The Advanced Maths group will continue in Term Four with students provided with the opportunity to extend themselves in a supportive learning environment.

Inquiry
“Change Detectives”
In Term Four, the students will be exploring Chemical Change through a unit called ‘Change Detectives’. Change Detectives is a unit which allows students to make links between the world around them and the chemical changes that they experience in their everyday lives. It will allow them to create, explore and understand how and why things change. Students will participate in hands-on activities and student-planned investigations. Furthermore, they will create cross-curricular opportunities to apply their learning throughout the curriculum.
ICT in the Classroom and at Home

During Term Four the Year 5 students and teachers will continue to use the Edmodo Application. Students receive a range of learning resources on Edmodo including instructions, PDFs and home learning. They are also able to submit their learning tasks and support other students with queries about school related areas, such as a challenging Maths question or complex literacy tasks. Make sure you create a parent account to track what your child is working on and share their wonderful learning. Further instructions can be found by following this link: https://support.edmodo.com/home#entries/24000145-how-parents-sign-up-for-parent-accounts.

Glen Waverley Primary School is now using TiqBiz. The TiqBiz app is a useful communication device between home and school. The benefits of TiqBiz for our school community are:
- **Push Notifications will contain reminders and timely information about events happening around our school**
- **You will be able to add these school based events to your personal calendar**
- **You can access school newsletters, canteen price lists and more via your smartphone**
- **You can notify the school if your child is absent by sending a message from your smartphone**
- **You will be kept-up-to-date with information regardless of where you are.**

TiqBiz is available on iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and Windows phone devices. If you don’t have a mobile device, there is also an app available for the computer, both on Mac and PC. Information for setting up TiqBiz is available on the school website or at this address: http://glenps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/1440741267tiqbiz_info_letter_to_parents.pdf

Level 5 Team
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