Level 6 Term 4 News
Glen Waverley Primary School

Welcome to Level 6 for the final term of 2015! This is a very exciting time for the Year 6 students as they prepare for secondary school. During this term we will be supporting and preparing the students for this transition. We are very proud of what the students have achieved this year, and wish them all the best for next year.

Mathematics for Term 4

As we prepare our students for their transition into Year 7, our focus is to consolidate and extend students’ understanding of topics covered throughout the year. We aim for your children to ‘see’ Mathematics in a real-world context and begin to apply and articulate their skills and thought process confidently.

In Term 4, the Year 6 students will again be covering different concepts across all areas of Mathematics.

In Number and Algebra, students will be focusing on working algebraically and graphing equations. Learning in this area will be supported through regular Number Talks to engage students in their Mathematical thinking and the use of hands-on tasks.

In Measurement and Geometry, students will be focusing on Cartesian planes, 2D & 3D shapes, tessellations and revision of volume and surface area. These concepts will be explored and applied through the completion of a mini-project.

In Statistics and Probability, students will be developing their understanding and skills in graphing and data analysis, calculating mean, median, mode and range, and data collection. As per usual, all concepts will be taught in-line with our developing whole school approach to Mathematics, including hands-on tasks, Number Talks and authentic experiences.

Home Learning

In Term 4, the focus for Home Learning will be organisation! In order to help prepare students for Year 7, we feel it is of the utmost importance for them to develop and refine their time management skills. This involves learning how to plan and using their time effectively to ensure that all learning tasks are completed to a high standard and in a way that still leaves time to relax and recharge.

In order to support students’ development, submission and completion of Home Learning tasks will be carefully monitored by classroom teachers to ensure students are succeeding and achieving their personal best.

Home Learning tasks will continue to be given to students each Friday and will need to be submitted either electronically on Edmodo or in their books by the following Friday.

Various tasks will be assigned that allow students to consolidate and extend upon the concepts covered in class in creative ways that require them to think deeply. Some mini-projects will be assigned to allow students the opportunity to plan and manage their time over a few weeks.

If you have any queries in regards to your child’s Home Learning, please do not hesitate to contact their classroom teacher.

Important Dates:

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<td>Interschool Sports</td>
<td>Friday 23rd Oct</td>
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<td>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</td>
<td>Monday 3rd Nov</td>
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<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
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<td>Community Links Day</td>
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<td>Year 6 Fun Day</td>
<td>Tuesday 15th Dec</td>
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**ICT**

Term 4 will see Year Six students continue to expand and refine their digital capabilities, using their iPads and other ICT in the classroom, across a range of learning activities, researching, publishing, completing online interactive, creating iMovies, and communicating with their peers and teachers.

Aiding the expansion of ICT use in the school are the two new Netbooks that each Year 6 classroom has received this term. These new laptops will help to ensure that all children have increased access to ICT learning opportunities.

Edmodo will continue to be used in the classroom – with an eye on utilising the ideals of a ‘flipped classroom’, where students access and respond to learning activities in a completely online capacity – where they will be able to access content at all times online, and receive instant feedback on their learning and development.

**Writing**

In Writing we will be focusing on two areas this term: Speech writing and text response essays. These units are aimed to allow students a taste of what they will experience in high school.

For the first few weeks of term, we are focusing on powerful speech writing. The final speeches will be about graduation and students will have the chance to enter them into a competition to be valedictorian at Year 6 Graduation. The unit is aimed at developing public speaking skills, confidence and language features specific to oral presentations.

This term we will also be supporting the students in their transition to high school by creating text response essays. For this unit, the students will be reading and analysing a text. They will then be writing essays comparing how themes are expressed in a variety of texts. This will give the students the opportunity to apply their comprehension skills and link their reading and writing in an effective way.

Throughout the term, the students will continue to develop their VOICES skills, through individual goals and explicit teaching. This allows the students to develop skills necessary for many writing genres.

**Reading**

In Term 4, the Year Six students will begin their Reading unit by linking their studies to their Graduation speeches. Through identifying the purpose and intent of various famous speeches, students will determine what makes a speech powerful and meaningful. Students will also examine the way speech-writers use analogy, symbolism, personification, metaphors and figurative language to have an impact on the audience.

Following this, students will utilize these skills to analyse the way language features are used in literary texts by individual authors to create a unique ‘voice’ in their writing. Studying several texts written by the same author, students will compare the way authors use phrasing and stylistic features to create a recognisable writing style.

Year Six students will be critically reading a range of novels, picture storybooks, and other literary genres and engaging in meaningful dialogue about the themes, issues, and events within a book, and use evidence to justify their point of view.

In conjunction with this, students will continue to improve their reading using the CAFÉ menu to structure individual reading goals, and conferencing with their teachers to challenge themselves and extend their reading ability.
Camp

Year 6 camp was a great success! We were very proud to see the students’ use of persistence and determination to overcome their personal challenges. The Blue Light Youth Camp in Maldon, provided students with many opportunities to actively participate in outdoor activities, such as bike riding, yabbying, mini golf, rock climbing and bush walking. One of the students’ favourite activity was the Maldon town walk, where they were able to go shopping in town. The other highlight of camp was discovering the hidden talents of the Year 6 students during Skit night.

Many laughs were had and memories made, we hope that all the students enjoyed camp and are proud of their personal achievements.

Inquiry

During Term 4 the Year Six students will be investigating the scientific topic of “Essential Energy—How does it fuel our lives?” This unit specifically focuses on developing students’ understanding of the importance of energy.

The main focus questions are:

* What is energy and how do we use it?
* What are the different kinds of energy?
* What are the positive and negative impacts of these energy sources?
* How does energy usage affect the lives of others around the world?
* How can we change energy usage for the better of our planet?

During this term, students explore and extend their understanding of different types of energy, how it is stored and used. Students will be given opportunities to investigate how electrical circuits works. This knowledge will help them design and test their own circuits.

As Global Citizens, students will be encouraged to investigate different types of energy have impacted different countries and the environment. They will analyse and research issues, such as climate change and develop a presentation on ways to help protect and conserve the environment.