

# LEVEL 4 NEWSLETTER

Glen Waverley Primary School

Term Four 2017

As we continue another wonderful term of learning at Glen Waverley Primary School, our newsletter aims to guide home learning intentions and purposeful study. We are lucky to have learners that are interested and hungry to learn, it is fantastic to hear the thinking and learning they continue to do beyond school hours.

## What Went Well?

- We have five new learners in Level 4 who have settled in beautifully. This has been shown through their excellent demonstration of class 'Learning Norms' (conditions we set for high level of learning).
- Rich focus on collaboration this term. Collaboration is a life-long skill we would like to set the children up with and it has been fantastic mindsets in the way that they are making deliberate and mindful interactions with their peers.
- Learners readiness for learning. It is clear that our children have had a safe and restful break and it has been incredible to hear the experiences they have had. Various factors can influence children's readiness to think and sleep is a core component.

Reading out loud lights up a range of areas in your brain creating rich connections from left brain to right brain!



Reading out loud

## Semester 2 Reports

In Level 4, we have been focussing on children having ownership over their own achievements, progression and goals. As we think forward to reports being released, we thought it might be a great idea to share best practice around these exciting documents.

Social Emotional	Reflective	Metacognitive
How do you feel about this?	What would you change?	What would you like to make a goal?

Reports are a document that stimulate and promote conversation; a form of reflection. Time within the school year passes so quickly we envision reports as a time to take a deliberate pause.

- Have the children read their reports to a parent, guardian or family member.
- Ask them curious, positive and open-ended questions;

This shared document is best read aloud by the child to those that they trust. We would love to hear feedback on how this learning process develops in your home.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Hands-On Science Incursion

Monday 23rd October

Tuesday 24th October

### Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Tuesday 7th November

### School Council

Monday 23rd October

Monday 20th November

Monday 9th December

### Last Day of Term 4

Friday 22nd December

(1:30pm dismissal)

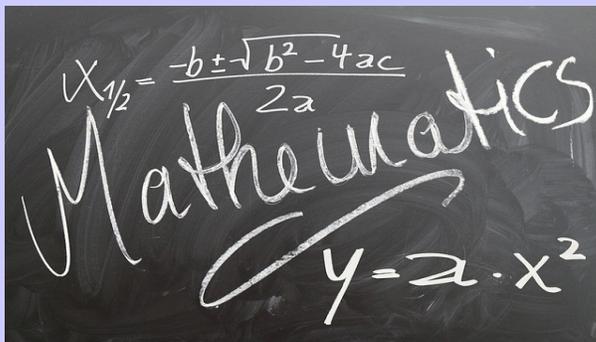


Our 'You Can Do It,' Social Emotional Program is central to all learning and practice in Level Four.

Therefore all classes commenced the term with a rich focus on learning tasks intended to facilitate learners reconnecting to each other, their teacher and learning expectations in a collaborative process.

Level Four will continue reigniting this thread by implementing Social Emotional Learning Rotations focussed on further developing values of Resilience, Persistence, Getting Along, Organisation and Confidence. They will have the opportunity to connect with other teachers in the level as each rotation in a passion area of each educator.

Learners have also been supported to create individual social emotional goals based on the You Can Do It Keys to Success and School Values of Integrity, Respect, Global Empathy and Initiative. They regularly reflect on success criteria to celebrate their successes and create strategies to guide further progress.



In Term Four, our mathematics curriculum has begun with reviewing our 'Positive Maths Norms' to set our learners up for success with classroom learning conditions for the remainder of the term.

As we progress through the term at an increasing pace, we will be consolidating our problem solving skills in line with the four operations. It is important for our learners to develop their problem solving skills, as these can be transferred into real-life contexts seamlessly for solution-based thinking. We have already identified a need for reach teaching of language when decoding questions that are written differently to our expectation. This is where we are building learners to transfer their mathematics skills to a variety of applications.

In addition, we will also have a measurement focus, connected to our Inquiry focus of Forces, which will involve an exploration of different units of measurement within the metric system and time.

Maths Talks will continue to be embedded into our mathematics curriculum, which will allow our learners to apply the skills they have developed throughout the year into a collaboratively rich setting. Learning experiences will also be created in line with the children's needs that become prevalent throughout the term.



This Term in Writing, our passionate Literacy learners will delve into strategic thinking while exploring persuasive, procedural and free choice writing. Our purpose when investigating these areas is to always move towards a deeper understanding of text types through VOICES approaches.

So far, the learners are passionate about discussing how they have used VOICES in their text pieces and set co-created goals within this framework. Across the level we continue to take a rich collaborative approach to writing, understanding that discussing our ideas prior to writing creates a clearer, explicit piece of writing. As children build their thinking, they will move to doing this process in their head with their 'inner conversation,' frequently referred to as metacognition.

In Week 3 our learners will also partake in a Rotary Writing Competition where they will plan, write, edit, revise and submit their own published free choice writing piece as authentic authors!



This Term, Level Four will be exploring forces.

The key to deep learning is building rich connection across learning and life. The learners will be linking their Literacy and Mathematics to their learning about forces that they can locate within our world.

As a Science focus the clear connection will be to our Mathematics units. The learners of Level Four will be exploring topics such as Friction, Elasticity and Gravity, Magnetism and Push/Pull through a weekly rotations where classes will visit other classrooms and teachers.

To launch our Inquiry we are participating in an incursion with the amazing team from 'Hands on Science'. Within these sessions each class will have an hour and a half investigating how forces can be exerted by one object onto another through direct contact or from a distance. This session will allow students to predict, observe and explain results of a variety of incredibly rich tactile task and experiments. These sessions will be running Monday and Tuesday of week 3.

Schedule is as follows;

Monday 23rd October: 4E, 4C and 4B

Tuesday 24th October: 4D and 4D



As a means of further engaging the children with their learning, they have personalised learning goals in Reading, Writing, Maths and Personal Learning (Wellbeing). The Level Four Team encourage all parents to ask the children to elaborate on their learning goals regularly with a particular focus on how the goal was developed, the progress they are making towards achieving their goals and what the children think their next goal may be.

In Level 4, this will begin to take the form of booklets on every learners table. During the subject we are studying, the learner flips to their targeted goal.