



Important Dates

Getting to Know You interviews
15th Feb
22nd Feb

Camp to Sovereign Hill
27th Feb - 2nd March

Curriculum Day (student free day)
10th March

Swimming
6th - 22nd March
Monday,
Tuesday,
Wednesday

School Photo Day
29th March

Athletics Day
3rd March

Labour Day
13th March

District Athletics
24th March

Twilight Sports
15th March
TBC

End of Term
2.30pm
Thursday 24th March

Level Leader's Welcome

I would like to welcome existing families back to our school and extend a warm welcome to the new families of the Glen Waverley Primary School community. We have had a great start to the year; the students have settled in very well into our fabulous double storey learning space and are engaged in their learning.

Over the past fortnight each class has spent time getting to know each other through Circle Time discussions and working together collaboratively to complete different learning tasks. We take pride in our supportive and friendly school community and celebrate the diverse multi-cultural background that is the very fabric of our very proud school.

On Wednesday 15th February and Wednesday 22nd February, we will have our "Getting To Know You" interview evenings. It will be wonderful to see you all and we look forward to working with you and your children throughout the year.

In Term One, students will be exploring historical Australian events that occurred during the 19th Century. We are deepening our understanding of the overarching question, "**How have significant events in history changed Australia and its people?**" Students will research the development of colonies across Australia. Within our unique costume camp experience, they will see what life was like for different groups of people in the colonial period. We will then investigate how the Victorian Gold Rush and the Eureka Stockade changed the political landscape of Australia and the impact upon the development of Australian society.

Students are working towards developing their understanding in response to the unit's focus questions:

1. What was the role of explorers in Australian history?
2. What economic, political and social factors contributed to the Colonial Settlement of Australia?
3. How did the Gold Rush impact Australian environment and society in the 1800's?
4. How did events after the Gold Rush shape Australian politics and society?

In Week 5, the students will travel to Sovereign Hill in Ballarat for an exciting three day camp to see what life was like during the Gold Rush period of the 1850's. This will be an exciting day as students immerse themselves into the time period and we will be gold panning, exploring the township and visiting replica gold mines. Students will be attending colonial schools and will experience the award winning sound and light show, "Blood on the Southern Cross".

Information about Sovereign Hill can be found at:

<http://education.sovereignhill.com.au/>

Miss Tania Smith
Level 5 Teaching and Learning Leader

Welcome to our NEW Level 5 staff members!

Hello! My name is Rebecca Morris and this is the beginning of my 5th year of teaching. I'm so happy to be at Glen Waverley Primary School as part of the Year 5 team. I have previously taught Years 3 and 4 at Lilydale West and Ruskin Park Primary Schools. Outside of teaching, I play netball, tennis and go to the gym as I enjoy keeping fit. I also value spending time with my family, friends and my pet cats. Travel is a big passion of mine so I like planning and going on short or extended trips as often as possible. I'm really looking forward to Year 5 camp and I hope to get to know many of the students whilst we pan for gold!



Hi GWPS! My name is Kate Wheeler and I am really looking forward to getting to know everyone in the Glen Waverley Primary School community. I have spent the past few years teaching in London, where in my spare time I made the most of the amazing opportunities Europe had to offer. My interests include travelling, netball, martial arts, animals, food and music. I am excited to work with the students at GWPS and supporting them as they take on the challenges of this year.

NAPLAN

Each year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are assessed on the same days using national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. This year the NAPLAN tests will take place from Tuesday 9th May – Thursday 11th May in Term 2.

NAPLAN tests skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN tests are one aspect of each school's assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

Further information about the assessment including sample NAP assessments and frequently asked questions may be accessed at the official website: www.nap.edu.au

NAPLAN DATES

9th May
Language
Convention
and Writing

10th May
Reading

11th May
Numeracy

English

The Year Five students have been engaged in a variety of learning tasks during the beginning of Term One requiring them to set expectations, think deeply and reflect on themselves as readers. Following our Whole School Approach to Reading, students will learn new reading strategies, develop and expand on prior ones and work towards becoming more independent learners. Our reading program emphasizes the importance of comprehension together with accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. During Term One we are looking at many reading strategies including: predicting, questioning, reading with expression and making connections. Most importantly, students will receive individualised reading goals to personalise their learning and facilitate individual growth.

We have some very exciting learning to undertake in writing this term. Students will be reintroduced to our Whole School Approach to Writing which involves the development of a Writer's Notebook. In their Writer's Notebooks students will collect ideas and practise writing strategies, just like real authors. The writing strategies we develop follow the 'Six Traits Writing' model, which at Glen Waverley Primary we are referring to using the acronym VOICES. VOICES is a systematic approach for looking at writing part by part. As writing is a complex activity, this approach can help students break down the task and understand it better. During writing lessons the teacher models and supports students to develop skills in the six VOICES areas. The purpose of VOICES and the Writer's Notebook is to create relevant and authentic learning task encouraging students to be lifelong learners with a passion for writing. To ensure students receive the support to achieve this they will regularly conference with their teacher to discuss their writing and develop personalised writing goals.

Students will be given many opportunities to increase their speaking and listening skills during Term One. As the focus of the start of the school year is on building relationships and routines, already students are practising their communication skills by getting to know their new teachers and classmates. They will also be given many opportunities to present in a formal manner during home learning presentations, class discussions and class reflections.

Mathematics

In Numeracy, Level 5 students will be addressing all three standards of the Victorian Curriculum for Mathematics; *Number and Algebra*, *Measurement and Geometry* and *Statistics and Probability*. In Term One, students will develop their ability in *Statistics and Probability*. They will collect, present and draw conclusions relating to different sets of quantitative data. Learning tasks will require students to collect data about their peers and present the data using different graphs including bar graphs, column graphs, line graphs and pie graphs. This will provide students with an opportunity get to know more about their classmates.

In order to maximise our students' productivity and foster a positive and supportive environment in our math lessons, we will be implementing our whole school approach to mathematics in level 5. We will introduce and utilise math and number talks in each classroom to ensure students have comprehensive depth of knowledge in all curriculum areas. Students will be challenged to take risks in order to develop their ability in mathematics.

In *Number and Algebra*, students will build on their understanding of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using mental, written and digital strategies. They will focus on answering and creating problem solving questions in verbal, written and number form. Maths and number talks, specific and targeted learning tasks and the 1-to-1 iPad program will be utilised in order to cater students that are learning at different levels. This will provide students with the opportunity to challenge their learning. Students will be addressing factors and multiples, focusing on prime numbers and composite numbers.

In *Measurement and Geometry*, Level 5 students will focus on the measurement of time. Students will attempt realistic learning tasks to develop functional timetabling skills. Learning tasks will cover essential life skills of reading and interpreting public transport timetables, and developing timetables for school.

The Advanced Mathematics Program will provide approximately 20 Level 5 students with the opportunity to participate in learning tasks aimed at extending those students that are particularly passionate about and gifted in mathematics. The Advanced Mathematics Program will be run by our mathematics specialist Mr Di Xue.

1-1iPad Program

In 2017, Level 5 students will continue to utilise the 1-to-1 iPad program in order to extend and enrich students' learning. The iPad user agreement will ensure that the students use their iPads responsibly. Students will learn about digital citizenship and their responsibilities in cyber safety. Students will use their iPads in a range of exciting ways in order to keep up with the constantly evolving landscape of information, communication and technology. Students will share their learning using apps such as Edmodo, Flick, Seesaw and Socrative. Students will create engaging presentations using apps including Keynote, Book Creator, Prezi and Show Me. They will also be able to participate in the global community by using digital resources from around the world.

Home Learning

Home learning this year will be completed on iPads as well as in Home Learning books. Tasks in four learning areas are handed out to students each Friday and are to be returned the following Friday by email and/or completed book work.

Inquiry- Inquiry based activities are planned to compliment classroom study and broaden students' engagement with our term focus. Inquiry study this term is based on developing students understanding of settlement in Australia, including the impact of the Gold Rush in the 1850's.

Mathematics- Each week students will be required to complete Mathematics units or hands on mini projects on the topic we are covering in class at that time. This consolidates learning and enables students to reinforce their understanding in a different format.

Reading- Students are to read for 15 minutes per night, often to an adult or older sibling. Even for confident readers it is still important they have the opportunity to read out loud to develop expression and fluency. Conversations around your child's reading will reinforce their understanding and help them develop critical literacy skills that are introduced at this level.

Spelling- Ten spelling words are selected each week concentrating on spelling rules, common words and personal needs. Students will need to practise these words nightly and complete a learning task. Each Friday students will complete a spelling test on given words.

You Can Do It!

You Can Do It! is a program that supports the development of the social, emotional and academic outcomes of all young people. Its unique contribution is in identifying the social and emotional capabilities that all young people need to acquire in order to be successful in school, experience wellbeing, and have positive relationships including making contributions to others and the community (good citizenship). Throughout the year students will continue to develop their social and emotional capabilities through various activities such as social stories, group discussions, practical learning tasks, independent and small or whole class tasks. These capabilities include: Confidence (academic, social), Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along, and Resilience. Central to the development of these 5 Foundations is instilling in young people the 12 Habits of the Mind that support and nourish the 5 Foundations, including Accepting Myself, Taking Risks, Being Independent, I Can Do It, Giving Effort, Working Tough, Setting Goals, Planning My Time, Being Tolerant of Others, Thinking First, Playing by the Rules, and Social Responsibility (includes the values of Caring, Doing Your Best, Freedom, Honesty, Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Understanding, Tolerance, and Inclusion).

In Year Five, as an extension to the YCDI program, students will also explore and make connections between this program and Glen Waverley Primary School's Guiding Statements. We will introduce and unpack the notions of what it means to be a 'Global Citizen' and 'International-Mindedness' and its characteristics, as part of the school's journey in becoming accredited member of the Council of International Schools (CIS).

Swimming

The Level 5 swimming program in Term One will be held at Just Swimming, Syndal and is part of our Physical Education Program. The program has a focus on water safety, not just in the pool but around water in general. Students learn different types of swimming strokes and common sense when dealing with water. Swimming and water safety awareness is imperative as Australia has so many beaches, lakes, rivers, pools and waterways. It is a skill that all people should have and it is important that all students learn their own capabilities around the water.

The trained instructors assess the students in small groups and focus on what they need to achieve to develop their skills placing them in like ability groups. They will ensure strong swimmers are advanced and those with the basics learn to develop further skills.

Parents are welcome to come and watch their child during swimming lessons. Please note that due to student privacy it is not appropriate for photographs or videos to be taken that may capture another student apart from your child in the image.

Swimming caps are provided by the pool and are to be retained by the students. A good towel that will dry properly is important! Please remember that it is very important that all your children's school uniform and other items of clothing.

We sincerely thank you for your interest in and passion for your child's education and taking the time to read about our learning foci for Term One. We look forward to working with you throughout the year as we continue to set up every student for success. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Level 5 Team

Miss Tania Smith, Miss Kate Wheeler, Miss Rebecca Morris, Mr. Jeff Chen, Mrs. Nicole Pryde,

