



Level Five Newsletter



Important Dates

Student-Led Conferences
18th, 19th July

Maths Olympiad
26th July,
16th August
6th September

Australian Mathematics Competition
27th July

Curriculum Day
2nd August

ICAS - English
1st August

Family Life Parent Information Evening 7PM
9th August

Family Life Sessions
18th, 25th August

VSSS Dance
10th August,
14th, 15th September

VSSS Choir
16th August,
14th, 15th September

Whole School Concert Rehearsals
30th, 31st August

Year 5 Excursion to the City
7th September

JULY, 2017

Level Leader's Welcome

Welcome everyone to our second semester of learning at our wonderful school. This promises to be an exciting term with our "Time Warp" School Concert in Week 7. All students have discussed their part of the production and are memorising their song and designing and practising their dance moves.

This term students will also participate in the Family Life program. In Year 5, student sessions will focus on providing information about the physical changes of puberty for both boys and girls. Sessions will also focus on the emotional changes that young people may experience at puberty, such as mood swings.

As part of our social and emotional wellbeing, students have developed increasing confidence in their abilities and are encouraged to take risks with their learning. Putting in effort and asking for assistance are components of a "growth mindset" and this carries across to all areas of learning. We encourage students to use initiative, try new strategies and 'have a go' as they become lifelong learners. This term, students are learning to maximise their organisational 'tool box' by planning their time, setting goals and using their iPad to set their calendars and reminders.

If you have any queries or wish to visit our classes in action, please contact myself or the classroom teacher.

Tania Smith
Level 5 Teaching and Learning Leader



English

Our focuses in Term Three are poetry and theatrical role-plays. We will be integrating our learning with new understandings from the Victorian Curriculum that explore our Inquiry unit, 'What events in the late 19th Century Shaped Australia?'

Reading:

Reading sessions at Year 5 are comprised of independent reading time, a mini lesson, and collaborative or independent practise. During the mini lesson and collaborative/independent practise, students learn and trial a CAFÉ reading 'strategy'. During Term Three the students will be building their depth and knowledge of a range of reading strategies.

To support our poetry writing unit students will be analysing mentor texts and developing reading strategies around the genre of poetry. They will be reflecting on **figurative language**, identifying the meaning of different similes and metaphors and identifying how authors use them to create meaning. They will also be learning about **symbolism**, how to identify symbols and what they might represent.



To consolidate their learning students will **analyse and critique** a few pieces of poetry, focusing on the strategies the author has used and developing their own interpretation of it.

Other reading strategies we will cover during Term Three include:

Synthesising- Students will explore how a text develops and will cause a shift in their thinking through the tracking of new information.

Questioning - Students will ask questions and develop their own personal inquiries as they read historical fiction and non-fiction texts about aboriginals. They will work towards developing their capacity to identify key information, paraphrase texts and answer lingering questions through research.

Making Connections - Students will reflect on their use of thinking tracks and pauses and work towards improving the way they track their thinking on sticky notes as they identify text connections in a range of texts.

Determine and Analyse the Author's Purpose - Students will identify text features the author has used to engage the audience and the purpose specific words or phrases have.

During independent reading time, students will continue to work on their own reading goals. Teachers will confer with students during this time to set and review goals, ensuring all students have an individualised reading goal and the support to achieve it.

Writing:

In writing, students will focus on developing their poetic language by examining and experimenting with model texts. This will involve learning about techniques such as similes and metaphors, and exploring different structures and styles of poems. They will develop 'self-poems' to portray inside and outside traits, and work on embedding excellent word choices and figurative language to build vivid imageries in writing.

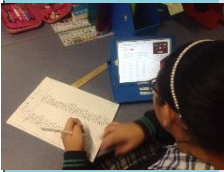
As part of inquiry, students will construct theatrical scripts and enact scenes to demonstrate relationships and stories of figures and roles from the 19th century. By focusing on important parts of Australian history as part of writing, students will further develop their understanding of ethical issues relevant to our society, past and present.

Furthermore, student learning in the areas of grammar and spelling will be targeted on a weekly basis. Students will explore increasingly complex sentence structures and identify grammatical elements such as main and subordinate clauses, and experiment with writing extended sentences that contain word groups with more descriptive and precise meanings.

Speaking and Listening:

To further students' language interactions and speaking skills this term, they will engage in constructive debates and discussions about current and historical events. Students will also develop their fluency and expression in speaking by recording their own poetic writings.





Mathematics

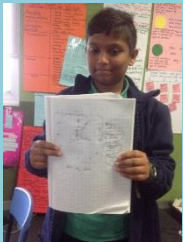
In Mathematics, Level 5 will continue to develop students' mathematical thinking through processes of concrete, pictorial and abstract problem-solving. Throughout Term Three, the students will be focusing on financial planning and budgeting, elapsed time including timetables, transformation of shapes, number operations and algebraic thinking.

Our students will develop skills in managing and planning finances in hypothetical trips to events within the city of Melbourne. They will investigate, calculate and justify their plans based on research and personal decisions, and learn to negotiate time, travel and costs. The students will also use digital technologies as effective tools to better consolidate their financial planning.

Students will continue to extend their understandings of number operations and algebra, solve multi-step, worded problems and use deductive reasoning to create problems of their own. They will learn about the order of operations, meaning of algebraic symbols and the difference between number statements and expressions through learning tasks involving equilibriums and balances.

Students will also learn to apply the enlargement transformation to familiar two dimensional shapes and explore the properties of the resulting image compared with the original.

The Advanced Mathematics Program will continue to provide selected 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, Cath Peters.



Inquiry

During Term Three, Level Five will be delving back into 19th Century Australian history. Continuing where we left off in Term One, students will be focusing on the development of Australian colonies and the formation of the Commonwealth of Australian through the process of Federation. We will subsequently explore economics, civics and citizenship and what it means to turn separate colonies into one state. Students will enrich their understanding of Indigenous Australians and the challenges their societies endured through the period from colonisation to Federation. Finally, students will be given the opportunity to drive their learning by inquiring into the individuals who influenced Australian society during the period of the formation of our nation. We will accompany this with a full day excursion to the Old Melbourne Jail and Treasury building. We welcome parents to join us for the day. Please provide a copy of your WWC check to your child's class teacher before the day.

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 Three. We look forward to working with you throughout the year as we continue to set every student for success. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Level 5 Team

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