

# LEVEL 6 NEWSLETTER

## TERM 4, 2017

### ENGLISH

#### Reading

During reading workshops this term, students will be participating in Literature Circles. Literature Circles allow a small group of students to read the same novel, and discuss their thoughts, opinions and ideas in a respectful manner. This is a fabulous opportunity for students to further consolidate reading strategies such as predicting, inferring, questioning, synthesising and summarising. Students take charge of their meeting times and discussions, allowing them to develop their independence in preparation for high school.



#### Writing

Students will be developing their speech writing skills to link in with the speaking and listening curriculum. They will plan, construct and present a graduation speech, focusing on the use of figurative language, humour and/or emotive language to connect with their audience. Once completed, students will undertake a multi-genre unit, which will allow them to explore the writing techniques they have learnt and developed over the course of the year. Students will be constructing multiple pieces of writing - including a persuasive piece, poems, a narrative and a genre of their choice - around a topic of passion or interest.

#### Speaking and Listening

This term, students will focus on the craft – including language and features – of a great speech. They will be examining famous speeches, such as Martin Luther King’s ‘I Have a Dream’, and identifying how these presenters elicit particular emotions within their audiences. Students will then draft, prepare and present a speech about their time at Glen Waverley Primary School that demonstrates their understanding of what makes an effective speech. Once presented, students will go through a selection process, and one student will be chosen to present their speech at Graduation. As a means of further supporting the children, we have engaged Manal Younus who is a professional poet, public speaker, and writer. Manal will be collaborating with the children to develop a speech, and how to set personal learning goals during rehearsals to continually improve their delivery. She will then focus on the process of delivering the speech in the most effective, engaging manner for the audience.



## MATHEMATICS

In Term 4, the year 6 learners will be undertaking a variety of individual and group based projects which develop the student's fluency, reasoning, modelling and problem solving skills. These projects demonstrate the link between mathematics and the real world, assisting the students in implementing their skills beyond the classroom.

The first project, titled 'Choco Loco', allows the students the opportunity to redesign a chocolate bar. In this project, the students transform an original chocolate bar into a shape that has the lowest possible surface area (amount of packaging required), calculate the amount of chocolate needed to remake the chocolate bar (volume), and finally use isometric dot paper to sketch the bar from different elevations.

In Statistics and Probability, the students will be generating their own data by recording each student's vertical jump and standing long jump measurements. The students will then use this data to construct graphs and analyse the information to draw reasonable and realistic conclusions. The students will set goals for themselves and work their way through the steps to success before presenting their findings to the class.

For our final unit, the students will continue to develop their understanding of algebra and algebraic thinking. We will explore the use of pro-numerals and how they can be used to solve complex worded problems.

## LEARNING GOALS

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 Six 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.

We talk often about the Learning Pit and the productive struggle which is required to achieve real learning, and each learning goal is carefully chosen to work within this framework. The productive struggle is the feeling of learning, and how we interpret the feeling will change how we feel about learning. You might like to ask your child how they know when they are learning, and how it feels.

## INQUIRY

In Term 4, the Year 6's will be learning about energy and the different forms it can take. They will explore the idea that energy cannot be created or destroyed, but is transformed and stored. We will conduct experiments to transfer and transform electricity, and will continue to develop our understanding of energy flows in systems. Prime Sci will visit us on the 26th of October and 9<sup>th</sup> November to amaze us with experiments which demonstrate the flow of energy.



We will construct electric circuits and distinguish between open and closed circuits, and see that the growth and survival of living things are dependent on matter and energy flows within a larger system. This will build on to looking at renewable and non-renewable sources of electricity, and explore the impact of each.

As an important part of their inquiries into types of energy, we will develop our ability to use the scientific process, building on from our Term 2 understanding of how scientists work through problems systematically and logically.

It promises to be a very exciting unit of learning, offering our students an insight into scientific avenues they might continue at secondary school.



## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Over the course of 2017, Year 6 students have had the chance to build their skills across multiple digital platforms, and Term 4 presents a fantastic opportunity for them to consolidate their skills as they near secondary school.

Year 6's will continue to utilise their iPads on a regular basis in the classroom, with the wide array of apps such as iMovie, PicCollage, ShowMe and Flick, beneficial in enabling students to respond to learning tasks in a creative way. Their use of these applications will be of importance during our inquiry into 'Energy'. The ability to research effectively online is vital to aiding students' independent inquiry, and these skills will also be targeted throughout this unit of study.

Additionally, the continued use of their iPads is crucial in creating a classroom environment of collaboration through Edmodo and Office 365. Edmodo will also be used as the first port of call for accessing and submitting their Home Learning.



One of the more exciting chances for students to demonstrate their digital skills, is the 'Graduation Movie', which will showcase the storyboarding, filming, and editing skills that the Year 6's have developed throughout their time at GWPS. In collaboration with Ms. Park, this film which will be unveiled on December 7th at the Year 6 Graduation!

Students will also continue to build on their understanding of cybersafety and how to be responsible users of digital technology – skills that will hold them in good stead as they enter secondary school.

## **INTERSCHOOL SPORT**

Physical Education is a vital part of a well-rounded education and in Term 4, there are multiple opportunities for the Year 6 students to showcase their skills. First and foremost, the Interschool Sports competition is in full swing, with six scheduled matches against schools in the local district. Students will test their mettle in Cricket, Tee-Ball, Softball, Rounders, and Danish Rounders, and judging by the enthusiasm in the first practice session last Friday they are raring to go!

Whilst also testing their sporting skills, these matches – against Syndal South, Holy Family, Parkhill, Pinewood, Mt. Waverley Heights, and Burwood East – are a tremendous chance for students to interact with others in the local area, to display their sportsmanship, and to build on values such as resilience, confidence, and integrity.

Outside of Interschool Sports, our Year 6 Softball team will be participating in the District Finals on October 20th. Last week members of the team were lucky enough to undergo a training session with members of the Waverley Baseball Club – receiving advice from a professional player, and coaches who have travelled with the Australian team to the Olympics!

Year 6's will also be participating in a Cricket Gala Day on October 27th, a day which many have been looking forward to all year.

Finally, the Year 6 cohort will have the chance to try their hand at a number of new sports as part of the Community Links Day at Wesley College, with lesser-known sports such as lacrosse, bubble soccer, and squash featured in recent year. It is shaping up to be an action-packed sports experience in Term 4!

## **GRADUATION**

As we head towards the end of the year, it is time to reflect on the amazing journey that our Year 6 students have had during their time at primary school. It is a time of mixed emotions; excitement for all the adventures to come, pride for everything we have achieved, but also sadness as we farewell many familiar faces. We will retain our memories for many years to come. To celebrate their incredible journey we invite all Year 6 students and their families to the 2017 Year 6 Graduation, to be held at Glen Waverley Anglican Church on Thursday 7th of December.

The ceremony will commence at 5:30pm and will be followed by a celebration disco for Year 6 students only. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks but please come and see your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions. We look forward to celebrating with you.

## **END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS**

This year, as a way to celebrate all of their fabulous achievements throughout their time at primary school, all Year 6 students will be heading to Melbourne's famous Luna Park on Wednesday 13th of December. This day will be a part of Luna Park's school activities week, which allows for primary and secondary school students to safely enjoy the rides and amusements without public access. It will be a fantastic day and one for students to remember.

Community Links Sports Day is another special 'Year 6 Only' event. On Monday 18th of December, Year 6 students will be walking to Wesley College to take part in a sports day with other schools in our district. This is a fabulous opportunity for students to make connections with other Year 6's who

may be going to the same secondary school in 2018. It is also a great way to try sports and clubs that are new or unfamiliar, as many clubs from the Monash area are invited to participate.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Term 4 is always a busy time at school and even more so in Year 6. Below are a list of important dates to remember and add to your calendars. Please see your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions.

Wednesday 18th of October	Graffiti Education
Thursday 26th of October	Prime Sci Incursion (Renewable Energy)
Friday 27th of October	Cricket Gala Day
Friday 27th of October	Disco
Friday 3rd of November	Highvale Secondary Guest Speaker
Thursday 9th of November	Prime Sci Incursion (Electric Circuits)
Thursday 7th of December	Year 6 Graduation
Tuesday 12th of December	Year 7 Orientation Day
Wednesday 13th of December	Luna Park Fun Day
Monday 18th of December	Community Links Sports Day

### **Interschool Sport**

- Burwood East- 3rd November
- Highvale- 10th November
- Parkhill- 17th November
- Pinewood- 24th November
- Mt Waverley Heights- 1st December
- Syndal South- 8th December