



Grade 5/6 Newsletter

March 19th, 2018

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 21st March

'Stomp The Beat' payment is due

Thursday 22nd March

'Cupcake' orders close

Friday 23rd March

House Athletics Day

Tuesday 27th March

Gr 6 Cup-cake Fundraiser for Graduation



Wednesday 28th March

Assembly 2:45pm

Thursday 29th March

End of Term- 2:30pm Finish



Monday 16th April

Term 2 Commences

Monday 16th April

'Stomp The Beat' commences

Friday 20th April

School Photos



STEM

Our weekly STEM class occurs on Friday when all three 5/6 classes rotate through an Inquiry, PE, and STEM lesson for just over an hour and a half each. Following the work we undertook last year in designing a new Welcome Garden at the front of the school, students in year five have been introduced to the brief, survey data, and concept plans so far created by their year 6 peers. We have utilised the outdoor landscape around the 5/6 building to explore some of the principles of horticulture and to embed some skills around its management. Activities such as weed identification and removal, pathway construction, pruning, and mulching, have been undertaken safely and effectively and students better understand the importance of doing these tasks correctly.

Next term we shall resume our planning process and have a final plan for implementation early in the term. Students will use their knowledge of scale to create a plan that will allow them to mark out the design and calculate the cost of materials; they will also produce a timeline for implementation. Students have incorporated communal seating, artworks, simple pathways, a rain garden, and hedging, as key garden elements. The final plan will be shared and promoted throughout the school and we are looking forward to getting our hands dirty.

Below is a popular garden design from last year.



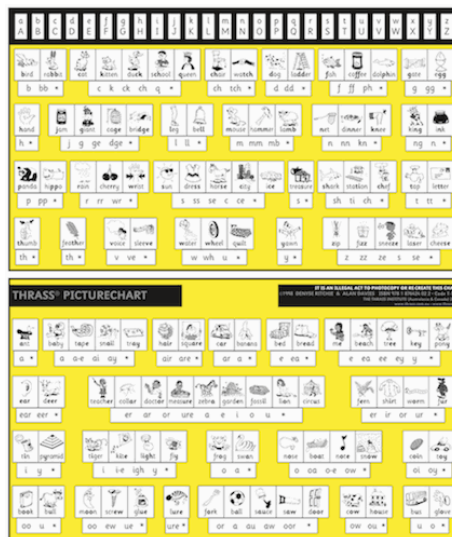
What We Are Learning In Grade 5/6!

Literacy

Reading is a social act! We all love to talk about what we read and the Grade 5/6 students are no exception! Over the past few weeks students have been given the opportunity to think, record their thoughts, and then talk about their reading both in Reading Circles and during reading strategy sessions. Students have been stopping, thinking and reacting to information that they have read in order to add to their store of knowledge, remember information and better learn and understand. Don't forget to ask your child about what they are currently reading at school.

In writing we have been continuing working on our spooky stories and developing our ideas. We have been looking at the role of the writer, audience, formats and topics. We have also been discussing the strategy of 'showing and not telling!'

In spelling we have begun using THRASS and are working on becoming familiar with the chart. We are playing lots of games and learning how to 'THRASS OUT' words. Ask your child what is a phoneme and a grapheme?

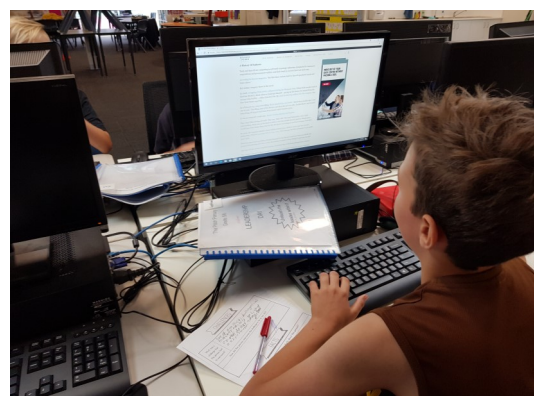


Numeracy

Over the past 2 weeks and until the end of term, students are exploring the 4 operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. At Grade 5/6 level it's important that students are regularly practising their times table. We ask that you encourage your kids at home to do this on a consistent basis.

Inquiry

Students have been currently researching a famous leader that exhibited a growth mindset. Students are researching leaders such as Tutankhamen, Albert Einstein, Marie Curie and others.



Swimming Sports

There's been a lot of sports action already in the first term of 2018 at The Patch.

We started off the year with our district swimming event in February. Congratulations to the following students that participated on the day. Troy, Hamish F, Finn, Bryn, Logan, Imogen, Tarquin, Nikayla, Milla T and Amelia.

We had several of these students progress to the next stage of competition and represent us at the Division Swimming Championship in early March. The Division Swimming event started off with the Boys Freestyle relay team, made up with Bryn, Logan, Tarquin and Finn. The boys put in a tremendous effort, finishing in first place by only 0.15 seconds, qualifying them to progress to the next stage of competition.



Following the freestyle relays were the individual events. Milla T competed in the butterfly and managed to secure a 3rd place finish. Nikayla competed in both the backstroke and freestyle events and finished 1st in the backstroke, qualifying her to move on to the Regional Championships.

Finn came 2nd place in freestyle and will be moving on to compete at the Regional Championships as well. Logan competed in both the butterfly and backstroke events and obtained a first place finish in both events, qualifying him to move on to compete at the Regional competition.

One of the highlights of the day was the outstanding team effort put into the medley relay to finish off the competition. Bryn, Tarquin, Logan and Finn made an outstanding comeback from 8th place to finishing 2nd

and qualifying them to compete at the Regional competition.

All of the students who competed at each stage of the swimming competition should be immensely proud of themselves. They all put in an outstanding effort and we were thrilled to have them represent our school at each stage.

This week we have 8 students representing our school at the District and Division tennis competition. I want to wish Sam, Theo, Kiara, Isabella, Lochy, Isack, Finn and Josh all the best this week. We're looking forward to hearing the results from their competition soon.



Outside of school sports we have yet another amazing sports achievement to celebrate. Yoni Arad recently competed in the Dennis Harris Cup. This is a speed skating competition for inline skaters. Yoni currently trains at the Caribbean skate club. He came away with some very impressive results, with a 4th place in the 3km event, a 3rd place in the time trials, a 2nd place in the 300m event and a 1st place finish in the 500m event. Congratulations Yoni!



Some more outside school sports news this week. Congratulations to Logan, who recently competed in the Melbourne VicCentre Long Course Qualifying meet at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. Logan competed in both the butterfly and backstroke events and gained state times in each event. This makes him eligible to compete at the Victorian Sprint Championships at the end of this year. Good luck with the rest of your events this year Logan, we look forward to hearing more news from you soon!

Swanston Sports



On Tuesday 13th March, we were lucky enough to be visited at school by some elite sportsmen. Adam Oxley, Ben Crocker and Lynden Dunn, from the Collingwood Football Club, made the trip out to The Patch to help us work on some of our football skills. All of our 5/6 students received some tips and hints from the players as we practiced the skills of handballing, kicking and bumping.

One of the highlights of their visit, as reported by both the staff and the students, was the Q and A session at the conclusion of the physical activities. Our students asked some incredibly insightful and considered questions to the players. We learnt about how they stay resilient after losing important matches, how they prepare before a big game by staying present, centred and grounded, what sort of nutritional guidelines they follow to help them perform at their best and, most importantly, what sort of rap music they like listening to.



The players had a great rapport with the students and it was a real privilege for us to have them come out and visit our school and spend time giving us an insight into the world of AFL. We hope to have them back again in future.



We're also gearing up for our house athletics carnival this coming Friday. Students will be competing in events across the board including, discuss, javelin, shot put, long jump, triple jump, hurdles and sprint running. The results from this carnival will be used to qualify students to progress to the next level of competition, the District Athletics Carnival. This event will be held early in term 2 on 6th April.

We're looking forward to entering many of our students to represent our school on the day.

Our Cross Country event will also be coming up in term 2. Students will have opportunity within their P.E. lessons to work on their fitness and to practice their running skills before our own in school cross country event (date to be confirmed). The District Cross Country competition will be held on 25th of May.

HEALTH EDUCATION SURVEY

In Grade 5/6 at The Patch we offer programs in Sex Education and Drug Education in alternate years. This year will be Drug Education and Kate Wilde from "The Workshop" shall be delivering the interactive session during term 3 for an approximate cost of \$15 per student.

A number of parents of year 5 & 6 children, however, feel that Sex Education should be taught every year to our students. Whilst our school is happy to provide both programs each year, there is an added cost to parents.

If we offer Sex Education in addition to the scheduled Drug Education program this year, Vanessa Hamilton from "Talking The Talk" will be the presenter. Her recent presentation to parents was highly regarded. There would be two sessions for both Grade 5 and Grade 6 and it would cost approximately \$25 per student.

Topics covered include:

Naming Body parts

Gender and Diversity

What is puberty and its changes

Conception, Pregnancy, Birth

Respectful Relationships

Protective Safety

Friendships and Belonging

Brief discussion re: Internet harm



If you would like further information, please refer to the 'Talking The Talk' website:

<http://www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au/parent-group...>

We encourage all parents to give their feedback as to whether you would like Sex Ed program (Talking The Talk) to occur this year at an additional cost of approximately \$25 by completing the survey at the link below by **Wednesday 28th March**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/58WXN5W>



Cupcake Day

Tuesday 27th March

YEAR 6 WHOLE SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Who for: Whole School

When: Tuesday 27th March, 2018

Cost: \$2.00 each (gluten free available)

Payment Due By: 2pm Thursday 22nd March

Please help our volunteers by pre ordering on Qkr! by the due date



Art

This year in art ALL students in Grades 5 and 6 must have an art smock to protect school uniforms, as students often use materials that can stain easily and are difficult to remove in the wash. Art smocks can be purchased from the uniform shop or retail outlets such as K-Mart or students can simply use an old shirt found at home to protect their clothing.



HOMEWORK

In Grade 5/6 we encourage students to be reading **every day** in order to continue developing a life-long habit. This could include independent reading/ reading to someone such as a parent or younger sibling/co-reading with a parent or parent reading to the student.

Our expectation for homework for Grade 5/6 students on a weekly basis is:

- Student diaries to be filled in with evidence of reading at least 4 times during the week this includes the title and number of pages read.
- 2 Mathematics tasks assigned by the teacher.
- Spelling activities including: Look, say, cover, write check, Thrass, writing words in sentences.
- Reading Circle preparation if not completed in class.

Homework is expected to be completed independently by students but supported by parents. Homework will be assigned on a **Thursday** and returned the following **Thursday** to be checked. Students who DO NOT complete their homework 3 times in a term will have to attend Marmook for half of lunch on 3 occasions to complete the assigned homework.

Absence Notes

Please ensure you have sent in your absence notes if your child is away. We must have a note for our records. The easiest way is to use the Sentral Portal or the Tiqbiz app.

Please note if you arrive after 9am you must sign your child in at the office using the iPad provided.

School Assemblies have moved from Friday mornings to Wednesday Afternoons 2:30pm.

Fortnightly

If you have any issues/concerns or just want to meet with any of us for a chat about your child, please feel free to contact us via email. We are always happy to make a time to meet with you.

The Grade 5/6 Team

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