



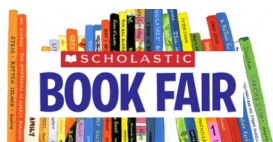
# Grade 5/6 Newsletter

May 11th, 2018

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday 10th May**

Bookfair opens



**Wednesday 16th May**

Assembly 2.40pm

**Thursday 17th May**

Bookfair closes

**Thursday 24th May**

Open Morning 9:15-10.30 am

**Wednesday 30th May**

Assembly 2:40pm

**Monday 11th June**

Public Holiday



**Wednesday 13th June**

Assembly 2:40pm

**Wednesday 20th June**

Grade 5/6 Geography Expo

**Tuesday & Wednesday**

**26th/27th June**

Three Way Conferences

**Friday 29th June**

End of Term 2

## Philosophy

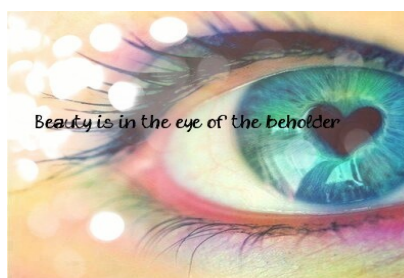
*This term in Philosophy we have been examining the concept of beauty. We began by considering what sort of things we find beautiful and asking ourselves why we hold that belief. The students quickly realised that we all have very different opinions on beauty. We delved deeper to consider beauty in different contexts and views. Is one object always going to remain beautiful if put in a different context or if viewed by a different person?*

*The following week we explored the ideas of natural and man-made beauty and how we view them. We spent time outside in the garden exploring nature and structure and considering which we thought were beautiful and why.*

*Throughout the remainder of term 2 we will be exploring how beauty can be dependent on era, personal opinion, cultural beliefs and prior experiences. We will also be looking at beauty through the lens of our 5 different senses. We will be exploring the concept of inner beauty, what that means to us and how it is different or alike to outer beauty.*

*At each stage of our exploration into beauty the students will be encouraged to think deeply about their own beliefs and to try to understand the reasons behind them. They will also be given opportunities to discuss these ideas with each other and to gain insight into each other's perspectives.*

*As one of our wise students stated very clearly in our first philosophy lesson this term 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder'. By the end of the term we hope that each of our students can understand this phrase on a deeper level and apply their meaningful learning to their views of beauty within our society and within each other.*



# What We Are Learning In Grade 5/6!

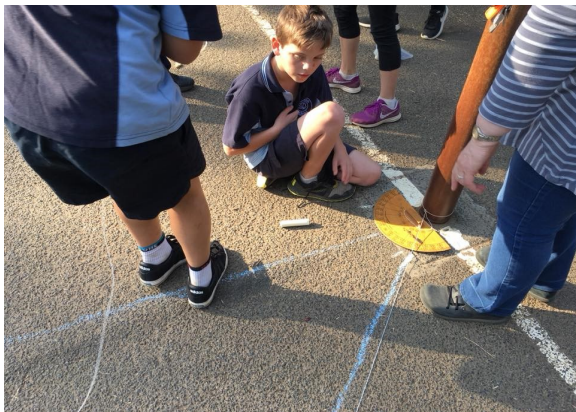
## Literacy

Our focus for the first half of this term has been on persuasive texts in both reading and writing. Persuasive writing focuses on convincing the reader to do something, from buying a new stove to voting for a candidate. Grade 5/6 students have been investigating the structure of a persuasive essay. A successful persuasive essay will contain an introduction that states the writer's point of view and captures the reader's attention. It will contain at least three arguments backed with evidence (such as statistics, facts, and quotes) to support the argument, and a well-formed conclusion. The students have also investigated persuasive techniques that writers use. Here are some types of persuasive techniques and examples that we have been using in our writing:

Technique	Examples
<b>Flattery</b> - complimenting your audience.	<b>A person of your intelligence deserves much better</b> than this.
<b>Opinion</b> - a personal viewpoint often presented as if fact.	<b>In my view</b> , this is the best thing to have ever happened.
<b>Personal pronouns</b> - 'I', 'you' and 'we'.	<b>You</b> are the key to this entire idea succeeding - <b>we</b> will be with you all the way. <b>I</b> can't thank you enough!
<b>Triples</b> - three points to support an argument.	Safer streets means <b>comfort, reassurance and peace of mind</b> for <b>you, your family and your friends</b> .
<b>Emotive language</b> - vocabulary to make the audience/reader feel a particular emotion.	There are thousands of animals at the <b>mercy</b> of our <b>selfishness</b> and <b>disregard</b> for kindness.
<b>Statistics and figures</b> - factual data used in a persuasive way.	<b>80%</b> of people agreed that this would change their community for the better.
<b>Rhetorical question</b> - a question which implies its own answer.	Who doesn't want success?

## Numeracy

Over the past 2 weeks students have been investigating how to measure and label angles. Students went on a scavenger hunt around the garden to find and measure a variety of different angle. Students used their protractor to measure the angle and then calculate the complimentary and supplementary angle as well. Some students even made a giant protractor on the basketball court using string, chalk and a protractor. Over the next 2 weeks students will collecting, analyzing and graphing data relevant to our welcome garden and look forward to reporting back our findings.



# Swanston Sports



We kicked off term 2 with our District Athletics carnival. We had over 60 students from Grade 3-6 qualify to compete across a variety of track and field events on the day. Congratulations to all of our students who finished the day with a personal best or a place ribbon. You should all be very proud of yourselves for your efforts on the day.

The next round of competition, the Division Athletics, will be held later in the year on October 10th. We are eagerly awaiting the results from the district competition to see how many students we will have progressing through to this round. Viv will be in touch shortly to notify students who have qualified.



# Swansea Sports

Our second major sports event this term was the Senior School Cross Country. In our P.E. lessons at the beginning of the term we have focused on developing our running techniques, in particular on being able to pace ourselves and conserve energy when running long distance events. The students explored how their heartrate increases and decreases dependent on the amount of energy they are using and the pace they are running at. We also focused on sprint finishes, using up all the energy they have left in the tank to be able to finish off strong in a long distance event. We were able to see a lot of the students using these techniques during our cross country event which was fantastic. All of the students who participated put in a tremendous effort and persevered despite the poor weather on the day. Well done!

We have 24 students (16 from grades 5 and 6) who have qualified to compete at the District Cross Country event on May 25th. Good luck to everyone coming along on the day. We look forward to hearing the results.



For the rest of term 2 in P.E. we'll be focusing on developing our skills in hockey and t-ball. We have attained a grant from the sporting schools organisation and have been able to purchase some great new sports equipment for both of these sports. These two sports are available as part of the winter sports competition between the schools in the mountain district. I'm hoping that after practising these sports in our P.E. lessons we should have some interest from the students in forming a team to enter into the winter competition.



# Naplan 2018

On the 15th, 16th and 17th of May our Grade 5 students will be doing the NAPLAN tests. Students have their skills assessed in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar), and Numeracy.

The timetable for these tests will be:

**Tuesday 9:00am- Language Conventions (40 minutes)**

**Tuesday 11:30- Writing (40 minutes)**

**Wednesday 9:00am- Reading (45 minutes)**

**Thursday 9:00am- Numeracy (45 minutes)**

These tests are set by the federal government and sent to them for marking. The results will be made available late term 3. It is very important that students are at school at 8:50 am as NAPLAN tests begin at 9am sharp.

## 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 Mathletics tasks assigned by the teacher or a maths sheet.
- 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 2:40pm.***

***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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