

Year 5 and 6 Newsletter

Park Orchards Primary School

Term 2, 2017

Welcome to Term 2



Term 1 was a busy one for Year Five and Six. Well done to the Basketball Boys, Basketball Girls and Kanga 8's Cricket teams who were undefeated in the Inter School Summer Sport program. It was fantastic to see the exemplary respect and sportsmanship shown by our POPS students, with the new one day round robin format running smoothly, and was a great success. Students have now commenced Interschool Winter sports, competing in sports such as Volleyball, Netball, Football, Soccer, Softball and Hot Shots Tennis over ten weeks.

In February our Year Six students attended the Young Leaders Conference where they listened to some inspirational guest speakers and learned about the skills needed to demonstrate leadership. They are to be commended for the maturity they demonstrated throughout the day. Our Year Five students have displayed their own leadership skills by helping their Foundation Buddies through their transition from kinder to primary school. We look forward to seeing more of these fantastic leadership values as we move into Term 2.

Judi Debono, Damon Quah and Michael Paul.

Key Dates

- 20th April – Year 6 ANZAC service
- 1st May – Life Education Visit for Year 5 and 6
- 3rd May – House Cross Country
- 9 – 11th May – NAPLAN testing for Year 5
- 12th May – Mother's Day Stall
- 12th May – Messenger Dog Incursion
- 22nd – 26th May – Education Week
- 25th May - Open Day/Night
- 6th June – Excursion to Western Treatment Plant
- 3rd June – District Cross Country



Essential Information

- Most communication ranging from simple reminders through to permissions and payments takes place online via **COMPASS**. Please be sure to regularly check your emails to stay informed with upcoming events.
- **Diaries** should record each student's reading throughout the week. The diary can be used as a method of communication between home and school and be signed by an adult weekly. Teachers will check student diaries on Monday unless students make them aware of communications from parents.
- **Homework** is handed out weekly on a **Monday** and expected to be turned in **by the specified due date**. Once per term, students may also be expected to work on a homework project. Parents are able to sign up on Edmodo and keep track of student homework and key information. The Year 5 and 6 **homework expectations are outlined** in the front of every student's homework book. We would appreciate your assistance in helping your child to organise their time so tasks are completed on time and spread over the week instead of cramming all tasks the night before.
- On the **9th-11th May Year Five** children will be involved in the **National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)** testing. We will provide students opportunities to prepare for these tests and will support them in the lead up. Please reassure your children should they feel anxious about sitting formal tests and communicate with teachers where appropriate if you have any concerns.
- One of the 6th June Year Five and Six classes will visit the Western Treatment Plant in Werribee as part of their Science and Geography curriculum. They will explore concepts related to conservation, the water cycle and electricity generation. For this excursion, all students will be required to wear long pants and long sleeved tops.



Interschool Sport

Interschool sport has already begun. Thank you to those parents who have offered to assist us with running this program. Without parental involvement we would not be able to run all the sports for the students. If you are around on a Friday afternoon it would be greatly appreciated if you could come and assist or support the students.

Term Two Fixture

21st April – POPS v Tintern

28th April – POPS v Tinternvale

5th May – POPS v Ringwood Heights

12th May – BYE

19th May – POPS v Tinternvale

26th May – POPS v Tintern

2nd June – POPS v St Anne's

9th June – BYE

16th June – POPS v St Anne's

23rd June – POPS v Ringwood Heights

Uniform Expectations

Please ensure your child is coming to school dressed in the correct uniform. They should:

be wearing school uniform and hair ties that are the school colours of green, gold and white

- **have a school hat**, which is to be worn whilst they are outside from Sept 1st – May 1st.
- **wear appropriate footwear** that supports their feet during daily activities
- **not wear jewellery** such as necklaces, or dangling earrings as they are unsafe.

Please ensure that **your child takes pride** in wearing their school uniform and how they present themselves, as it is a reflection on our school.

LITERACY

Reading teaching Focuses: This term Year 5 and 6 students will be given the opportunity to read both fiction and non fiction books. Students will be encouraged to bring a range of reading material to reading sessions and choose “Just Right” books based on their learning requirements. During reading sessions students will set and achieve learning goals based on eight key comprehension strategies CAFÉ reading strategies. C=Comprehension A=Accuracy F=Fluency E=Expand Vocabulary.



At this level, comprehension (“C” from CAFÉ) will be a primary teaching focus, ensuring students are continually developing the habit of consistently using all eight of the strategies to gain deeper understanding with various texts.

In Year 5 and 6 students participate in daily Writing Workshops, where students are given an opportunity to write a variety of genres and develop an appreciation of the writing process. They participate in focused teaching lessons, personal choice writing and individual conferences with their peers and teacher. Writing Focuses: During writing session teachers will be setting up daily writing routines and expectations. Teachers will model choosing topics and text types such as; narrative, persuasive and poetry structures. Students will be encourage to continue to develop their Writer’s Notebooks to aid them with the writing process.

NUMERACY

In Mathematics we are developing students with strong concept understandings who can flexibly apply these to solve new and unknown problems. To do this, our curriculum focus is on building four key proficiencies within each learner:

Understanding refers to students building a robust knowledge of adaptable and transferable mathematical concepts and structures.

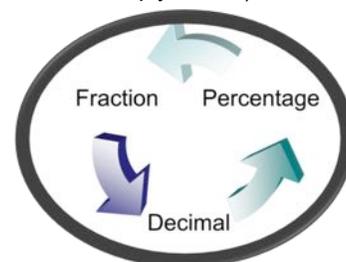
Fluency describes students developing skills in choosing appropriate procedures, carrying out procedures flexibly, accurately, efficiently and appropriately, and recalling factual knowledge and concepts readily.

Problem Solving is the ability of students to make choices, interpret, formulate, model and investigate problem situations, select and use technological functions and communicate solutions effectively.

Reasoning refers to students developing an increasingly sophisticated capacity for logical, statistical and probabilistic thinking and actions, such as conjecturing, hypothesising, analysing, proving, evaluating, explaining, inferring, justifying, refuting, abstracting and generalising.

Focuses:

- Using rounding for estimation and checking reasonableness of answers
- Efficient mental and written strategies to solve problems using all four operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide)
- Investigate Fractions, equivalencies, and links to decimals and percentages
- Investigate Multiplication and division of fractions and decimals
- Choose appropriate units of measurement for length, area, volume, capacity and mass.
- Calculate the perimeter and area of rectangles using familiar metric units.
- Calculate the time elapsed between two events (in hours, minutes and seconds).



SCIENCE



In Science this term our unit focuses on the Science topic of 'Marvellous Micro-organisms'. Students will explore what micro-organisms are, how can they affect us, and why microscopic cells play such an important role in our lives. They will also continue to examine the scientific process of investigation, including how to construct an experiment to ensure reliable and accurate results.

GEOGRAPHY

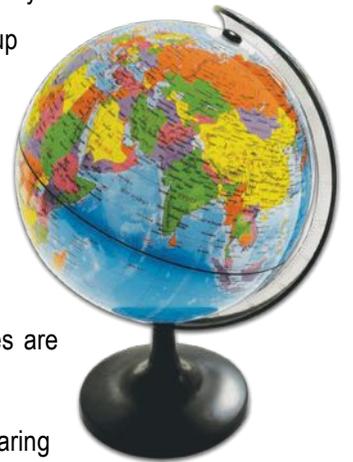
In Geography, students become more critical, analytical and evaluative in their thinking. They become increasingly aware of the wider community and are learning to take on individual and group responsibilities.

This semester students will be continue to explore the factors that shape the diverse characteristics of different places and how people, places and environments are interconnected.

They will examine how human action influences the environmental characteristics of places and how these characteristics influence the human characteristics of places.

They will also examine how human decisions and actions influence the way spaces within places are organised and managed.

Specific new geographical skills in Years 5 and 6 include interpreting spatial distributions, comparing places, making and interpreting graphs, constructing large- and small-scale maps, and using spatial technologies and information and communication technologies.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Students continue to participate in the Fitness unit in the lead up to our House Cross Country event. Students set themselves SMART fitness goals last term, and attempted to reach their own personal goals this term. Students will complete the Beep Test again at the end of the Fitness unit, with the hopes they have improved their overall fitness. Following that students will commence a Football unit incorporating AFL and Touch Rugby. There will be a focus on team play and skills used to throw a rugby ball with spin. We will finish off the term by commencing our Athletics unit, which covers the fundamental skills of 'run', 'throw' and 'jump'.

Sarah Marshall

VISUAL ARTS

Children will attend a weekly art lesson in the art room. The aim is to provide stimulating learning experiences that promote self-expression, provide for creativity and imagination in addition to the development of particular skills. This term, the children will be studying the work of American artist, Daniel Phill and will be painting an abstract impression of a field of flowers. For Mother's Day, the children will make a present using their collage skills (it's a surprise!). We will then start a Threads and Textiles unit, where the children will make a geometric pattern using metallic threads. Finally we will complete a group art activity that will be framed to sell at the P.O.P.S. Trivia Night.



Michelle Bethell

PERFORMING ARTS



This term, Year 5 & 6 Students are putting their musical skills into practice! We will be looking at genres of music, performance techniques & aesthetics. Students will be forming bands by the end of this term (a School of Rock inspiration!) and learning the extra skills they need to know to put on a performance (lighting & sound tech, event management skills, etc.). For the drama element of performing arts, we will be creating and performing short plays.

David Gill

MANDARIN

This term, the topic for Year 5 & 6 students is *Xue Xiao (School)*. In this unit, students will learn to express which school they go to and which class they are in. They will also learn to name some of the school buildings in Mandarin. Names of the subjects will be taught and students will learn to talk about which subjects they study at school and what subjects they like or dislike.

At the end of the term, students will learn about another traditional festival, Dragon Boat Festival, through listening to a historical story and watching a video related to the festival.



Li Mei Bian