

# Year 5 and 6 Newsletter

Park Orchards Primary School

Term 3 , 2017

## Welcome to Term 3



Term 2 was another busy one for Year Five and Six. All students participated in Interschool Winter sports, competing in sports such as Volleyball, Netball, Football, Soccer, Softball and Hot Shots Tennis over ten weeks. Well done to all the students for their sportsmanship and team cooperation. Our students also participated in our school cross-country, many went on to interschool completion and several students reaching division level competition.

In May our students participated in NAPLAN testing. This was an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning and the staff were pleased with the calm and competent manner in which all students approached these tests.

In June our students visited Western Treatment Plant and were hosted by Melbourne Water staff. We toured the plant, learnt how waste is treated and turned into recycled water. We were shown the effects of microorganisms in breaking down the waste. It was a fantastic trip and enjoyed by all.

We are looking forward to a great Term 3 with lots of interesting things to learn.

**Judi Debono, Damon Quah and Michael Paul**

### JULY

26<sup>th</sup> - Family Life Evening

24<sup>th</sup> - 5/6 Hooptime

24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> July - Chinese Exchange Students

### AUGUST

2<sup>nd</sup> - Camp Information Evening

7<sup>th</sup> - Aussie of the Month Assembly

9<sup>th</sup> - House Athletics Day

29<sup>th</sup> - Author Leigh Hobbs Visit

### SEPTEMBER

4<sup>th</sup> - Aussie of the Month Assembly

11<sup>th</sup> - Fri 15<sup>th</sup> - Phillip Island Camp

### PHILLIP ISLAND CAMP

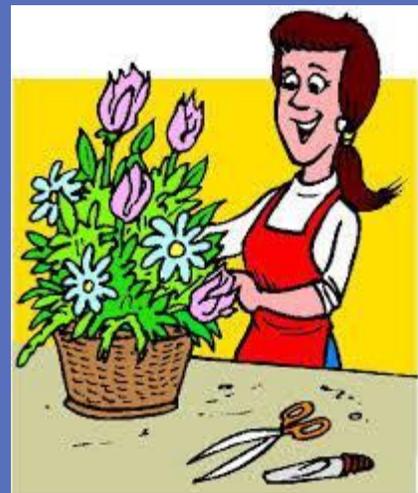
One of the most exciting aspects of Year 5 and 6 is the camp program. This year we will be heading off to Phillip Island. This is a change for students to gain leadership skills, build teamwork and have a great time.

The Camp Information Night is on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 7.00pm and information of the itinerary and all necessary requirements will be discussed.

The date for the camp is the 11th to 15th of September.

## 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.
- **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 Google Classroom 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.
- This semester we will be rolling out Google classroom which will ultimately replace Edmodo. This is an exciting change with students being able to access class content, which their teacher is using in class, during class time or at home. This is a secure portal and is supported by the Department of Education.
- Students are encouraged to bring iPads to school where possible. Each class has a bank of 5 iPads for shared use.



### Genius Hour

In the classroom, teachers are using Genius Hour as a time to have students follow their passions and spend time learning and creating about topics that are significant to them. Students are more engaged when they are in charge of their learning. Genius Hour is a Problem Based Learning Activity that has students acquiring knowledge and wisdom through self-driven learning. Students will develop research skills, letter writing, and presentation skills.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **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:**

- Finding factors and multiples of numbers
- Efficient mental and written strategies to solve problems using multiplication
- Investigate arrays and how arrays can be used to solve multiplication problems

## SCIENCE



In Science this term our unit focuses on the topic 'Earth's place in Space'. Students will investigate how scientists have used observations of the daytime and night sky to understand our place in space. Students will discuss various theories that people in ancient times held about the Earth, Moon and Sun. Through making 3D models and student—planned research, students will investigate elements of our Solar System and Earth's position in it.

## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY



This year, all students in Victoria are learning about Digital Technologies as part of their curriculum. Digital technologies provides students with the opportunity to acquire and apply specific ways of thinking about problem-solving to create innovative digital solutions. Some of the digital technologies that students may be using include notebooks, tablets, phones and cameras. Information will be acquired, manipulated, stored or communicated using some of these devices.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Students in Year 5 and 6 will continue the Athletics unit that we commenced last term; refining their fundamental motor skills of 'run', 'jump' and 'throw'. Our House Athletics Carnival will take place on Wednesday 9th August at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track in Doncaster where all students will participate in the tabloid events of: 100m, 200m, 800m, Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump, Shot Put and Discus. Following Athletics students will spend the rest of the term participating in the SEPEP unit where they will be expected to work positively in teams, encourage others and negotiate roles and responsibilities. The sports covered in the SEPEP unit will be: Basketball, Soccer, European Handball and Hockey. Students will be encouraged to think about game sense, understand the rules of the various games and be required to conduct peer and self-assessments throughout the unit.

**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 working with clay – manipulating, joining and decorating it to form a candle holder. This project will be glazed. For Father’s Day, the children will make a present using their woodworking and painting skills. (It’s a surprise.) We will then start a unit on ‘Spring’, where the children will extend their skills of drawing/painting to depict native flowers.



**Michelle Bethell**

### PERFORMING ARTS

Year 5 & 6 students will be working on their acting skills this term, in both scripted-drama and in improvised scenes. The students will create characters and stories to perform. Later in the term, we will be continuing with the bands, with students learning more instruments, covering songs and even writing their own compositions. Students will also learn some basic audio tech skills, like EQ and reverb.



**David Gill**

### MANDARIN

This term, the Grade 5&6 students are going to learn about Nationality. In this unit, they will learn the names of some countries. They will also learn to ask and tell about their nationalities using simple sentences. Apart from the unit of Nationality, students will be introduced to their Chinese names and the meaning of the names. They will learn to pronounce their names in Mandarin and write them in both Pinyin and characters. At the end of the term, students will learn about another traditional festival, Moon Festival (Mid-Autumn Festival) through listening to stories and legends related to the festival and watching some video clips.



**Limei Bian**