



Welcome!

GRADE 5/6 PARENT INFORMATION SESSION 2017

Who's who?

5/6A - Geoff O'Connor

5/6B - Maria Mandilas

5/6C - Seraphim Kyprianou

5/6D - Steve McArthur and David Altis

5/6E - Joanne Ristos

5/6F - Anne Graham

Learning Support Programs - Emily Corcoran

Our Units of Inquiry

Semester 1

How We Organise Ourselves - Decision making takes different forms and affects everyday life

How The World Works - Sudden changes occur that affect the Earth's surface

Who We Are - People experience changes at different stages in their lives that affect their sense of self

Semester 2

Where We Are in Place and Time - Migration is a response to challenges risks and opportunities

How We Express Ourselves (Grade 6 Exhibition) - Our appreciation of things depends on their form and function (Central idea is just for Grade 5 students)

Sharing the Planet - Living things must adapt to changes in the environment in order to survive

Literacy Teaching

Where possible, connections are made between the development of literacy skills and the transdisciplinary Programme of Inquiry (POI).

What does it look like in the 5/6 Area?

Students participate in literacy focus sessions on a daily basis that develop their skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening. A range of texts are used for instruction (fiction/non-fiction, magazines, online texts, novels).

What assessment is conducted?

Writing tasks, running records, 'Torch' tests, PAT comprehension, On Demand, PLD Spelling tests (focus on developing phonics knowledge)

How do we ensure that all student's learning needs are met?

Teachers adapt their literacy program to use structures that best meet the needs of their students. Explicit teaching focuses are based on student learning needs

What is our first focus for this year?

Reading Fluency, literal and inferential comprehension. Spelling program is up and running- students have weekly sound and strategy focus for a list of words.

Numeracy Teaching

Mathematics will be used as a vehicle for inquiry both within and outside the Programme of Inquiry. Where possible, content will be grounded in the Programme of Inquiry and real life contexts, with authentic connections being made. Mathematics focus sessions will balance the development of skills, knowledge and understanding. Mathematics teaching will be based on best practice, current evidence and research about how students learn.

What does it look like in the 5/6 Area?

Minimum of 5 x 50min Mathematics focus sessions each week. Flexible groupings, whole class activities, skills fluency, practice, and application. This can be with open ended inquiries, problem solving tasks, development of mathematical vocabulary.

What assessment is conducted?

Pre and post tests, Mathletics, On Demand, PAT Maths

How do we ensure that all student's learning needs are met?


Mathematics teaching will be informed by regular formative assessment and data to ensure that teaching occurs at the point of need, building on prior knowledge and understanding. Students will be provided with tasks beyond their current level of thinking and opportunities to extend their learning.

What is our first focus for this year?

Place Value, Data collection and interpretation, Number (4 operations and BODMAS)

Learning Support

- ▶ - The Grade 5/6 learning support sessions run for 6 sessions per week over 3 days.
- ▶ - Groupings for these sessions will be flexible and will change depending on student absences, and ongoing assessments by class teachers and Emily.
- ▶ - Sessions in Term 1 will primarily focus on reading, with the aim of providing some support for writing and numeracy as the year continues.
- ▶ - Students may work with Emily once or twice on a particular focus and then go back into the classroom, or they may participate in sessions every week.
- ▶ What you can do to support the program:
 - ▶ - Encourage your children to come with a positive attitude
 - ▶ - Talk to Emily or your child's teacher if you have any concerns
 - ▶ - Remind your child that mistakes are learning opportunities and that no one knows everything



**Recent studies
predict your
child will have at
least 17 jobs
across 5
industries in their
lifetime...solid
numerical
understanding
will be crucial.**

Mathletics

What?

Mathletics is the world's most used education and maths website! It is the next generation in learning, helping students enjoy maths and improve their results.

Mathletics covers Prep to Year 12 and is aligned to AusVELS and the Victorian Curriculum.

Why?

You actually pay for it. It allows teachers to pinpoint strengths, weaknesses and any issues that may arise in your child's conceptual understanding. We often align tasks to what is being taught in class... this helps consolidate learning and build numerical confidence.

When?

3 x 20 minute sessions per week plus one 20 minute session on 'Spelladrome' (Linked to Mathletics). Students are also advised to have a pad and pencil at the ready and seek parent help when needed.

How?

Exhibition 2017

- EXHIBITION OFFICIALLY RUNS DURING OUR 5TH UNIT OF INQUIRY FOR THE YEAR AND IS A FEATURE OF THE GRADE 6 CURRICULUM.
- STUDENTS WILL NOMINATE AREAS OF PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE UNIT AND WORK IN SMALL GROUPS TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN CENTRAL IDEAS AND LINES OF INQUIRY.
- THE EXHIBITION EVENING TAKES PLACE IN EARLY TERM 4 (LATE OCTOBER) AND ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IS A REQUIREMENT OF ALL GRADE 6 STUDENTS.
- GRADE 5 STUDENTS COMPLETE A SIMILAR INQUIRY WITH A GIVEN CENTRAL IDEA AND LINES OF INQUIRY.
- SOME PRELIMINARY ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM AND TUNING IN WILL BE RUN DURING GRADE 5 BUDDIES SESSIONS AND DURING GRADE 5 NAPLAN.
- AN INFORMATION NIGHT FOR PARENTS OF GRADE 6 STUDENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN EARLY TERM 3 WITH EXTRA INFORMATION AND DETAILS.

Homework Expectations

- ▶ Homework expectations of the 5/6 area are:
- ▶ 15-20 minutes home reading (individual or supervised) each night.
- ▶ Three 20 minute Mathletics sessions per week
- ▶ Revision of spelling words either through the school diary or on Spellodrome (feature of the Mathletics program.)
- ▶ Incidental inquiry tasks may be set for students to assist with the completion of inquiry tasks at school. These will be sent home at various stages throughout the year and will have a clear purpose and simple format.

Behaviour Management

Rights and Responsibilities - Raymon Lewis

“Students and the teacher have the right to feel comfortable and safe”

“Students and the teacher have the right to do as much work as possible.”

Class Essential Agreements - What are they and how are they made?

Consequences and behaviour management strategies

Leadership- School Captain Process

- Applications due at the end of the week
- Best applications will be interviewed by Steve and Robyn
- 2 boy and 2 girl school captains will be chosen from the children interviewed
- After School Captains have been elected, the grade 6 children will have an opportunity to apply for Junior School Council and House Captains.

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Junior School Council.

Grade 5 and 6 children can apply

They will give a speech to the grade outlining the qualities and skills that will make them a successful JSC rep.

The class votes for their representatives. One boy and one girl from each grade.

Meetings will be held every two weeks at lunchtime.

Tournament of Minds

- ▶ - The tournament is in Term 3 and consists of 6 weeks work on a long term problem which is presented at La Trobe University on a Saturday or Sunday. On the day, students also complete a 'short term' problem.
- ▶ - We aim to select students for teams before the end of this term.
- ▶ - In Term 2, we will begin practice sessions before, during and after school. Attendance at these sessions is essential
- ▶ - Selection will consist of a written application. Students and parents will be provided with a rubric outlining the selection criteria.
- ▶ What we're looking for:
 - ▶ - Collaboration and cooperation
 - ▶ - Critical thinking skills
 - ▶ - Performance skills
 - ▶ - Problem solving skills
 - ▶ - Creativity and innovation
- ▶ - Students who would benefit from extension and enrichment programs in an area of the curriculum
- ▶ - Students who will be present at school for all of Term 3.

Respectful Relationships – “Who We Are”

UOI

Resilience Rights and Respectful Relationships

_ Run by Vanessa Hamilton from “Talking The Talk”, WSPS has become ambassador for Rights and Responsibilities program

Program covers aspects of: body parts, puberty, conception, pregnancy and birth, gender diversity, respectful relationships and protective safety, friendships and belonging.

Grade 5’s and 6’s will be separate but cover same core material

Buddies

- ↪ Every fortnight, even weeks
- ↪ Grade 5 students assist preps in various planned activities
- ↪ Benefits to the preps, lack of fear to older children, benefits for grade 5's, leadership role and responsibilities

5/6 Swimming 2017

WATER SAFETY / SURVIVAL



Sessions:

- Entries & Survival **Strokes**
- Rescue Techniques
- Search Patterns
- Swimming Clothes**
- CPR & First Aid
- Boat Safety**
- Raft Building
- Races
- Open Water Safety**
- Water Polo

Interschool Sports/YMCA Program

- ↯ Begins 24th February
- ↯ 4 games will be played
- ↯ Grade 6's only
- ↯ Grade 5 students and grade 6 students not in interschool sports will participate in YMCA program. Cost for all activities is equal and covered by the sports levy so students in teams that miss interschool sports matches for whatever reason (injury or illness/ squad rotation etc) are not disadvantaged.

ACE Hi Ranch Adventure Camp

- ▶ 2017 Camp will not be interrupted by transition.
- ▶ This years camp will occur December
- ▶ Group 1 Students to attend Monday 4th – Wednesday 6th
- ▶ Group 2 Students to attend Wednesday 6th – Friday 8th
- ▶ Cost to be provided to parents as soon as possible along with an item list

Graduation

- ▶ Will occur last weeks of Term 4
- ▶ Cost between \$40-50
- ▶ Grade 5 students welcome to attend (optional)
- ▶ Location: The Sovereign.

Transition

Enrolling your child in a Victorian government secondary school is a straightforward process. If your child is moving from a Victorian government primary or secondary school to another Victorian secondary government school you will be asked to:

- ▶ check and confirm the personal and health information you provided at the previous school to make sure it is accurate and up to date OR
- ▶ fill out a new enrolment form.
- ▶ Information required includes:
 - ▶ your contact, phone and address details, and that of any other parent, guardian and/or carer names and contact details of emergency contacts
 - ▶ health and welfare information
 - ▶ information about the language/s your child speaks and hears at home

Document Information



- ▶ When returning transition documentation, please ensure you provide 3 government schools as options.
- ▶ If 3 options are not provided and you are unsuccessful in obtaining entry into your first choice school. Your child's application will be forwarded to your local high school.
- ▶ Local high school is determined by Victorian zoning.

Important Dates for Transition

- ▶ Orientation days
- ▶ As part of the transition from Year 6 to Year 7, students in government secondary schools participate in an orientation day. All government schools hold this orientation day on the same day - often the second Tuesday of December.
- ▶ **Orientation Day for 2017 will be held on 12 December. Please confirm with your school beforehand.**
- ▶ At the orientation day, your child may:
 - ▶ tour the school
 - ▶ meet teachers and ask questions
 - ▶ find out about the dress code
 - ▶ learn what they will be doing in their first year
 - ▶ meet other students.
- ▶ For more information about your child's orientation day, contact your child's new school.

Communication

Tiqbiz

Newsletters for each Unit of Inquiry

Exhibition information evening

Email via Compass

Policies you may find helpful

Student Engagement:

http://www.walesstps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/wsps_student_engagement_policy_2015.pdf

Healthy Eating:

http://www.walesstps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/wsps_healthy_eating_policy2015.pdf

Camps and Excursions:

http://www.walesstps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/wsps_campsexcursionspolicy2015.pdf

Questions?