

5/6 NEWSLETTER Term 3

Welcome back to Term 3, we hope everyone had a chance to relax after all the fun and business of Term 2. We are Super excited for Term 3, which features many special events including the Concert, School Athletics, Book Week and the wider introduction of ipads.

Lana Buckingham and Jessica Rancie



Mobile phones are permitted at school under strict conditions. They can be carried to school and used to confirm and make travel and safety arrangements. They will be given to the teacher with the morning roll and returned at the completion of the school day.

Mobile phones are not to be used for entertainment within the school yard, as supervising teachers cannot manage content or internet access that may be used on personal devices. Please assist us in promoting this message with your children.

The school is committed to the DEECD focus on **attendance** and **“It’s not OK to be away”** strategy. Comprehensive attendance records are kept and parents are required to provide a valid explanation for a student absence. Absences slips will be available in the back of each child’s diary.



Please be vigilant in keeping the school up to date with medical forms, including changes to your child’s health. Please see the office for relevant forms. We are still waiting for a few to be returned.

Tissues

We would like to thank parents for their contributions of tissues. If you are able to donate a box of tissues, it would be greatly appreciated as we are heading into the cold and flu season.



NUT FREE W.H.P.S is a nut free school. Please ensure that you do not send your child to school with food products that contain nuts or may contain traces of nuts. This includes BIRTHDAY treats which are not permitted. We appreciate your support .to help prevent severe allergic reactions from occurring in our school.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

LITERACY

In writing we will be focussing on writing Narratives and Balanced Discussions.

We will look at how descriptive writing can be used to capture the attention of the reader and how presenting multiple problems in a narrative can create tension and suspense. We will look at issues and consider both sides of an argument, which will then lead to debates towards the end of term.

In reading we will focus on working out the meaning of figurative language, such as similes and metaphors. We will also be focussing on summarising the information that we read by locating key words and phrases and then re-writing the information without losing the meaning.

Oral language is embedded into our daily classroom routine, with students presenting work to small groups and the class as well as reading aloud and social interactions.



This term in Integrated Studies we are studying the topic 'Social Justice' where we will be investigating children's rights and organisations that help meet the needs of children whose rights are not being met. Students will aim to produce a campaign promoting one of these organisations, which will then be presented to the community (perhaps even on the internet!).



Premier's Reading Challenge

Just a reminder that the Premier's Reading Challenge has started! Students need to read 10 books from the recommended reading list and 5 personal choice books before the cut off date of **September the 10th**. Students will be given their login to record their own books on the website.

The book list can be found online at:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/books/default.htm>



iPads!

This term in 5/6R we are very lucky to be trialling a 1-to-1 iPad program. Students received their iPads in the first week of this term and will have them for exclusive use for the entire term. The iPads will be used to enhance student learning and prepare students for high school. Students will also be using their iPads to make movies and eBooks. If the trial is successful, we are looking to implement a 1-to-1 program in 5/6 classes next year. Next term, 5/6B will be trialling this program.

School Concert

Students have been practising and busily preparing props for our Annual School Concert will be held on **Wednesday 14th August** at **Yarra Valley Grammar School**. Please ensure this date is marked in your calendar. Further details on ticket sales, times and costumes was sent home earlier in the week. Please return your form allowing permission to travel by bus to the venue for rehearsal. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mathematics



During Term 3 students will be exploring the following concepts in Term 3.

Number:

- Use mental and written methods for operations
- identifying prime and composite numbers
- Use estimation and rounding to check the reasonableness of answers to calculations

Financial matters.

- investigate, percentages through by looking at sale items and GST components of receipts.
- explore household bills
- plan their own budget and making justifications for their choices.
- explore average incomes around the world
- contrast needs and wants
- consider the value of money around the world.

Chance & data

- conduct chance experiments with small and large numbers of trials using digital technologies
- recognise that probabilities range from 0 – 1
- Describe probabilities using fractions, decimals & %

Measurement:

- Compare 24 and 12 hour times systems and covert between them
- Interpret and use timetables
- Connect volume and capacity to their units of measure

TIMESTABLES *Will be practiced regularly throughout the term. Funky tunes to assist with learning timetables can be found on Mathletics by clicking on Timetable Toons. Please take the time to assist and provide opportunities for your child to practice their timetables.*

HOMWORK



It is expected that each student will read at home every night for a minimum 20 minutes. Parents are asked to support the school and their child by listening to them read each night and signing the child's red student diary. Red diaries will be checked daily at school. A continued lack of reading may result in students making this up during their lunchtime.

MATHLETICS: It is expected that students complete at least 10 minutes of Mathletics each night. If you do not have internet facilities at home we will supply students with equivalent workbooks.

Throughout the term students will also be expected to do some **research for our Inquiry unit**. All extra homework will be sent home with supporting information and checklists for completion. In addition, work may be sent home if it is not completed during class.

If any parents would like additional homework please feel free to speak to the classroom teacher.

5 cent Thursdays

This term each class has a 5-cent collection tin to raise money for our school gardens. Any 5-cent pieces can be brought in and added to our collection. The tins will be weighed each week and results announced at assembly. There will be a special prize for the grade that raises the most money. Last year's 1/2s were the winners ...

Which grade will collect the most 5-cent coins this year? ☺



House Athletics

House Athletics will be held in week 6 this term at Willinda Park in Greensborough. Students from years 3-6 will be participating in sprints, hurdles, shot-put, discus, long jump, triple jump, high jump and relays. We will be training for this event on Friday mornings and if any parents would like to help out on the day it would be greatly appreciated.

School Car Park

Just a friendly reminder to all parents and friends that the staff car park is not to be used for dropping off and picking up students at any time. This is a safety concern for our students and we all need to remain vigilant about this.

Wet Mornings

As we approach the Winter season we are bound to experience some wet weather. We suggest children wait in the undercover areas if it is raining as teachers are not always in the classroom at that time. Depending on the severity of the weather, an announcement may be made, directing the students to the GP room between 8:30am and 9:00am. We appreciate your cooperation.

JULY

Athletics training every Friday morning.

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing.

AUGUST

Mon 5th - Special Food day

Wed 14th **SCHOOL CONCERT**

Wed 21st House Athletics

Tues 27th – Curriculum Day

Fri 30th – District Athletics

SEPTEMBER

Mon 9th - Special Food day

Thur 12th - Tony Bones book show

Tues 17th Rugby Gala

Science

The Grade 5 /6 area this term are studying the unit of Chemical Science and looking at what happens when substances are mixed. We will be studying matter, density and diffusion and looking into how the particle nature of matter gives rise to solids, liquids and gases. We will study the pH table as well as exothermic and endothermic reactions. We will finish up the term making a couple of fun and unusual substances!



Italian Languages Learning

Bentornati a tutti! Welcome back! What an exciting term that lies ahead with the introduction of the use of iPads. Mamma mia! The introduction of this new technology is going to be amazing to the Italian languages program. This term the Yr 5/6 children will be focusing on the topic "Conversation". The children will be introduced to an Italian Course manual called 'Avanti' and introduced to the many comic strip characters. The students will learn the greetings and expressions to then create their own role-plays. With the use of a program called "Puppet Pals" on the iPads the children will create a description of themselves using many greetings, nouns, adjectives and the use of the verb 'ESSERE'. The children will be able to record their voices in Italian and using the Puppet Pals program to introduce themselves and create their own stories. I hope to also introduce "Skype" and liaise with a local primary school who is learning Italian so the children will have the opportunity to improve oral communication skills in Italian to other children learning the Italian language via the 'skype' program. The children have access to iPod touches where they will be engaged in many Italian games and applications to consolidate the learning of the Italian program.

Headlice

Term 2 is a notorious time in schools for headlice outbreaks. Please be vigilant in checking your child's hair and keeping the classroom teacher informed to avoid any breakouts.

School Newsletter

A reminder that our school newsletter is published online each fortnight. You can log on to our school website for the latest (and previous editions) www.watsoniaheightsps.vic.edu.au

You may also choose to have the newsletter emailed to you each fortnight. If you would like to take up this option, simply attention your request via email to watsonia.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au