

# GRADE 6 NEWSLETTER

## ~ Term 1, 2024 ~

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Grade 6 team welcomes all students and parents to this very important and exciting final year of primary school.

The grades are as follows:

**Grade 6A, Rm 21:** Mr Malcolm Sutherland    **Grade 6B, Rm 22:** Mr Declan Hicks  
**Grade 6C, Rm 20:** Mrs Brigitte Bentley    **Grade 6D, Rm 19:** Ms Kate McGowan

Thank you to all those parents who made sure that their child had a hat, art smock, library bag, tissue box and school supplies on the first day of school. If any of these items have been overlooked, we would very much appreciate them being brought into school as soon as possible to ensure a smooth start to the year for our students.

### KEY DATES:

Tuesday 6/2 Safer Internet Day

Friday 9/2 Grade 3-6 Swimming Competition

Monday 19/2 and Tuesday 20/2 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Monday 4/3 to Friday 8/3 Buddies Week (wear purple on Monday 4/3)

Friday 8/3 Gala Day

Monday 11/3 Labour Day Public Holiday

Friday 22/3 National Ride Safely to School Day

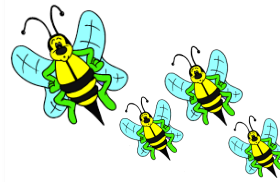
Thursday 28/3 Term 1 ends (1:40pm dismissal)

*\*Keep up to date with key dates by looking at the front page of the fortnightly school newsletter and referring to our school website's calendar.*

### ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

Assemblies will be held in the Courtyard (unless otherwise advised) at approx. 2:00pm on the following Fridays (apart from the last assembly for the term, which will start at 1:10pm on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March).

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
2/2	9/2	16/2	23/2	1/3	8/3	15/3	22/3	28/3
No assembly	P-2	3-6	P-2	3-6	P-2	3-6	P-2	P-6 (1:10pm start)



## **RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

Respectful Relationships is an initiative to support schools and early childhood education settings promote and model respect and equality. It also supports educators to teach our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

There are 8 topics addressed every year from P-6. This term, the Grade 6 students will engage in lessons from the underlined topic/s below:

1. Emotional Literacy
2. Personal Strengths
3. Positive Coping
4. Problem-Solving
5. Stress Management
6. Help-seeking
7. Gender and Identity
8. Positive gender relations

## **THE RESILIENCE PROJECT**

The Resilience Project is a means of promoting positive mental health through practising gratitude, empathy, resilience and emotional literacy. P-6 classes engage in weekly lessons, which involve students completing an associated journal activity. The Resilience Project lessons align with the Victorian Curriculum and address aspects of: Personal and Social Capabilities and Health and Physical Education learning areas. If you'd like to see how to support this program at home, visit: <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home/>.

## **Secondary School**

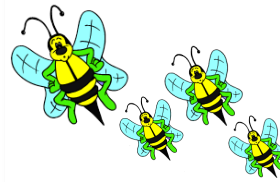
As this is your child's final year of primary school, hopefully some thought has been made regarding a secondary school. We strongly encourage you to visit the information nights offered by the secondary schools in the area to get a feel for which school is right for your child. A number of the schools in Wyndham are only able to take students from within their designated neighbourhood area, so please ensure you are eligible for your choice of school and contact the individual secondary schools for details on their information nights, as all of these occur early in the year. Preference forms will be sent home early in Term 2. These will need to be completed and returned to school. An interactive map showing your closest secondary schools can be found at <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/>.

## **Mobile Phones**

In accordance with school policy, all mobile phones (and smart watches) must be handed in to the office on arrival at school each morning and collected in the afternoon. Any urgent information requiring communication to your child through the course of the day can be made through our office.

## **Grade 6 Leadership**

Students in Grade 6 have the privileged responsibility of being the leaders of our school. During transition last year, students were offered an opportunity to compete for one of the



official leadership roles this year. This involved a process of preparing and presenting a speech to their peers for a class nomination, speaking in front of all of the future Grade 5 and 6 students where students voted and finally an interview with members of the school's leadership team. Congratulations to all the students who participated, as the quality of all were outstanding. **Leadership badges will be presented at the first Grade 3-6 assembly early in Term 1.**

### School Captains

Alice Bennett  
Adelyn Hawes

Willow Duncan-Higgs  
Zak Khalifa

Usman Farook  
Zoey Miller

### House Captains

**Gillard:** Ashley Hyett & Zoe Talau

**Hughes:** Jethro Hannan & Adrian Shrestha

**Middleton:** Hannah Balla & May Elbanna

**Coker:** Gordon K'nyaw & Mason Wickens

### Grade 6 Hoodies & Polo Shirts

The Grade 6 students have the opportunity to order a unique hoodie or polo shirt to celebrate their final year of primary school. These are not compulsory though are typically a very popular and practical memento of their time at school. We have had an outstanding number of families take advantage of our early order process last year, and will shortly begin a final opportunity to order these items directly through Noone Hoppers Crossing store (54 Old Geelong Rd, Hoppers Crossing) with receipt due early Term 2. Please note that the school's uniform policy will apply: "Hoods on the 'hoodies' are to be worn off the head whilst at school." Of course, students may wear that hood out of school hours, such as to/from school.

### Interschool Sport

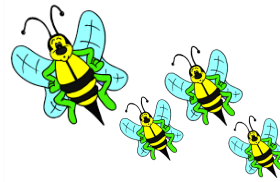
Students in Grade 6 will participate in summer and winter sports competition against other schools at the end of term. This competition will run through the course of Term 1, with weekly practise to prepare our teams for a single day carnival, which decides district champions. Permissions and costs will be uploaded to Compass for both term's competitions in the next week.

### INQUIRY in Term 1: The Changing Colonies

During Term 1, students will be looking at Australian history and changes to the colony leading to Federation of Australia. Students will learn about the development of Australia, changes in daily life of the people and reasons for the creation of Australia as a single country.

### ENGLISH in Term 1:

During reading in Term 1, students will develop their reading comprehension strategies and skills, interpreting and presenting their thoughts across different fiction and non-fiction text types. This will include expressing and supporting opinions, oral presentations, research and relevant note taking. Our writing units will complement these to include personal recount,



explanation and persuasive writing, and an ongoing focus on developing increasing complexity in drafted writing tasks.

**MATHEMATICS in Term 1:**

Students will work at an ability-based level, consolidating and developing their understanding in number and the application to a variety of mathematical problems. We will continue work with regular problem-solving and application of skills in changing situations. Focus areas for this term will include place value, operations, temperature and problem-solving strategies.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year and having a very successful 2024.

Regards,

Mr Sutherland (6A), Mr Hicks (6B), Mrs Bentley (6C) and Ms McGowan (6D)  
2024 Grade 6 Teachers