

SPECIALIST TEAM NEWSLETTER

~ Term 1, 2024 ~

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Prep students will be learning about 'locomotion', including different ways we can move our body to perform a variety of actions including running, jumping, leaping, hopping and skipping. Students will then be focusing on the fundamental motor skill of throwing and catching, including the overarm and underarm throw. This allows them to form a fantastic physical development foundation for any future sports and activities they may pursue.

Grade 1 and 2 students will initially be exposed to a unit on sportsmanship, correct behaviour and rules in Physical Education, including the safe use of indoor and outdoor equipment and play. They will also be learning about locomotion, including different ways we can move our body. Students will then be focusing on the fundamental motor skill of throwing and catching, including the overarm and underarm throw. This allows them to further develop their skills to form a fantastic physical development foundation for any future sports and activities they may pursue.

Grade 3 and 4 students will be focusing on the popular sport of cricket learning key skills, rules and game play tactics. Students will then be challenged with a junior fitness bootcamp including endurance, speed, strength and agility tests in preparation for the upcoming Cross Country event later in the term.

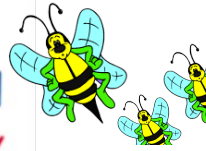
Grade 5 and 6 students will be focusing on net/wall sports including table tennis, badminton and downball, incorporating skills such as the serve, forehand and backhand strike. Students will then be challenged with a senior fitness bootcamp including endurance, speed, strength and agility tests in preparation for the upcoming Cross Country event later in the term.

Eugene Stanciu & Mark Grant (Physical Education teachers)

VISUAL ARTS

Prep students will be introduced to the Art room expectations, a range of materials and the fun of the Art room! They will be learning some basic and frequently used fine motor skills that are used in Art, such as drawing a variety of lines using different markers, cutting with scissors and pasting with glue. Students will explore line, pattern, colour and shapes. They will draw different shapes to create a self-portrait and learn the three primary colours. Students will create paper collages and experience tearing, scrunching and fringing with different types of paper.

Grade 1 students will revise the Art room expectations, develop their skills and discover how Art can be creative. The main focus of Art this term will be inspired by the artist Friedrich Hundertwasser. His guiding principle is that 'one should live in harmony with nature'. He



favoured shapes, spirals, wavy lines, and bold, bright colours. Students will be exploring lines, shapes and patterns, as they work on drawing, painting and paper collage under the influence of this exciting artist.

Grade 2 students will revise the Art room expectations and have ample opportunities to explore their imaginations. During the drawing unit, students will learn about exquisite corpse drawings. Don't be turned off by the morbid name of this classic drawing activity, it's actually totally appropriate (and highly enjoyable!). The other unit covered this term, is Collage, which means to paste or stick various materials on top of each other. Students will use a variety of resources and collage techniques to create a beach sunset and a habitat for an Australian animal of their choice.

Grade 3 students will be learning about the artist Pablo Picasso in Term 1. The Spanish artist created abstract self-portraits during the Cubism period. Students will explore Picasso inspired drawings and create their own. They will also learn about the artist Piet Mondrian who was passionate about geometric shapes and primary colours. Other units covered this term will include Threads and Textiles, and Collage. Students will learn a basic running stitch and produce a simple applique. They will use paper collage skills to produce an Australian Rainbow Lorikeet.

Grade 4 students will explore materials, techniques and processes specific to particular art forms, and make artworks. They will learn about perspective in drawing, and in particular foreshortening - objects portrayed as closer than usual. The other major unit being covered is Collage. The students will produce a scatterbrain collage which will include images that best reflect the things that they like or love. Students will have the opportunity to work in pairs to produce a Birch Tree collage depicting Autumn.

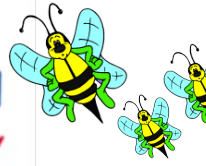
Jane Walton and Felicia Tomelty (Visual Arts teachers)

PERFORMING ARTS

Prep students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will be bringing story books to life and exploring the world of acting, role playing, and displaying and reading different emotions. They will also explore mime and being able to convey a story by only using actions. Along with learning about drama, they will also be learning the school song so they know how to sing it at assembly.

Grade 1 students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will use drama to retell stories from books. They will learn how to take on the role of another person, including inferring character's feelings and using voice, facial expression and body language to convey these feelings to others. The school song will also be revisited to ensure they know the words for assembly.

Grade 2 students will be using puppets to retell stories from a third person point of view. They will learn about staying in character and projecting the character and actions of their puppet. They will work on understanding the use of narrative structure in stories. They will discuss the messages conveyed in traditional fairy tales and Indigenous Australian stories.



Grade 3 students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will discuss the writer's intent for narratives through viewing and discussing the First Australian's story 'The Rainbow Serpent'. They will also learn about the narrative structure of plays, identifying the beginning (scene setting), problem (climax) and resolution of simple stories. They will learn how to improvise and create their own stories with characters, a climax and resolution.

Grade 4 students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will be learning different skills and techniques for Drama which will help them perform to their peers during class. This will include learning about using body language, voice projection and facial expressions to convey a story or message to the audience. Using all the techniques they have learnt, they will be creating, practising and performing stand-up comedy and skits.

Grade 5 students will be focusing on the art of Music and Drama. There will be two units of focus this term, the first being the 'score' of movies and film. Students will be choosing a book and creating sound effects and simple music for the stories. They will explore several instruments, including keyboards and classroom percussion.

Grade 6 students will be exploring the art of Music. Term 1 will be a whole term focus of song writing and video clip creating. They will be creating a song as a whole class, choosing a backing track, a theme for the song, then in smaller groups will be writing the lyrics to make a class song.

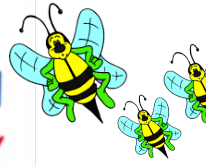
Adele Gilligan & Emma Chang (Performing Arts teachers)

S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Grade 3 - WE ARE SCIENTISTS - students will be getting enthused as they discover the wonders of Science through a series of fun, hands-on experiments. They will learn key experiment terminology and how to use Science equipment in a safe and responsible manner. They will then get to apply their learning in short design projects looking at the effects of friction, including creating friction games.

Grade 4 - NETBOOK skills & Simple Machines - students will learn key netbook skills for use across the curriculum as part of the 1:1 netbook program. They will discover the many exciting software programs included to aid their learning, including animation and C.A.D. (Computer Aided Design) programs. They will then move on to looking at 'Simple Machines' through lots of hands-on activities and seeing how they are used in everyday life to make work easier.

Grade 5 - CODING & Bike Education - students will begin to explore some of the exciting possibilities in the world of coding and robotics. They will learn basic programming concepts and will also have the opportunity to use block coding within a variety of platforms including Blockly, Code.org, Hour of Code and Scratch. They will then start the Bike Education program, which again will be incorporated into the S.T.E.M. program, allowing for



more in-depth study of the mechanics involved. More information regarding the Bike Ed. sessions will follow shortly.

Grade 6 - Green Screening & Electricity - students will study famous scientists and inventors and how their work has impacted today's world. They will experiment with green screen and animation software to create short movie productions, illustrating their research and also starring themselves! They will then go on to explore the way that electricity moves around a circuit. They will be encouraged to apply their understanding in creative ways and develop persistence during problem-solving tasks. Students will have the opportunity to use a variety of interactive technologies, when designing an interactive piece of their choice.

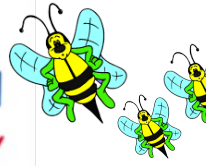
Mike Sisson (S.T.E.M. teacher)

AUSLAN

Prep students will be introduced to Auslan, learning to sign and recognise some simple sentences. They will learn words relating to family, colours and counting. They will learn to follow regular classroom instructions in Auslan, such as 'line-up', 'sit in a circle', 'pack-up', 'cut and paste'. They will learn location words, such as 'in', 'under', 'on' and 'in front of'. They will sing and sign Happy Birthday to their classmates to celebrate relevant milestones. They will interact with their peers and teacher to communicate in Auslan while engaging in games and activities.

Grade 1 students will learn to communicate who is in their family in Auslan and to interpret the family members of their classmates. They will expand on their learning in prep by signing feelings about family and colours. They will interact with their peers and teacher to express their likes, dislikes and feelings using simple dialogue through collaborative tasks and games. They will learn to follow simple instructions to complete a guided drawing task. They will learn how to use constructed action (mime) in conjunction with known Auslan signs and fingerspelling to get their message across. They will learn how to ask for help from their classmates and how to respond to simple questions.

Grade 2 students will learn to describe their family members to their classmates. They will use knowledge of location words to direct their classmates to locate objects hidden in the room. They will introduce themselves to others and translate the Auslan introduction of others into English. They will learn how to use constructed action (mime) in conjunction with known Auslan signs and fingerspelling to get their message across. They will learn some regular handshapes used in Auslan and categorise signs by their handshapes. They will interact with their peers and teacher to express their likes, dislikes and feelings using simple dialogue through collaborative tasks and games. Students will recognise, demonstrate and respect some of the differences between Auslan and spoken language.



Grade 5 students will focus on Deaf culture, what it would be like to be deaf and Deaf community identity. They will learn to sign our 'Acknowledgement of Country' and 'Advance Australia Fair' in Auslan. Students will create their own news recordings, signing to inform their peers about school events, such as special days, sporting events and public holidays, as well as explaining regular events such as 'Wheel and walk Wednesdays' and how the reward shop works. They will create an Auslan version of a familiar story using signs, constructed action and fingerspelling to share with younger students. They will demonstrate their translation skills by creating a storyboard for a story signed to them in Auslan.

Joan Hofmann (AUSLAN teacher)