

GRADE 5 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 3, 2014 ~

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Semester 2, already! Hope you all had a restful break and are ready for another busy term. It was great to meet many of you again at the mid-year parent/teacher interviews.

Some key dates for your diaries:

Literacy/Numeracy Week (incl. School Spelling Bee) - Week 3

Family Maths Night (Grade 4-6) - Wednesday 30th July

Australian Maths Competition - Thursday 7th August (selected students)

School Athletics Carnival - Friday 15th August @ the V.U. Athletics track

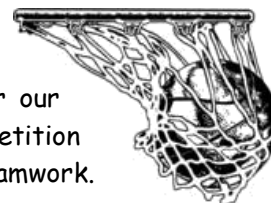
Grade 5/6 Hoop Time - Wednesday 10th September

End of Term 3 - Friday 19th September



Grade 4 Hoop Time

Mrs O'Donohue is planning to run trials for the forthcoming District Hoop Time basketball competition. This is not compulsory, but will be an opportunity for our students to showcase their basketball skills. There are different levels of competition ensuring all students can take part, have great fun, and demonstrate high level teamwork.



2014 Grade 4/5 Camp Program

We have had a good response for this year's Grade 4/5 School Camp, to be held at the Anglesea YMCA camp (Mon. 13th - Wed. 15th October- 2nd week of term 4). Thanks to all the parents who volunteered to help (we had in excess of 25!). We have selected a spread of parents from across the team, and look forward to their participation, which for many will be their first camp experience - good luck!

In the next few weeks, we will be sending out medical and dietary forms and we ask that these are returned promptly, along with any outstanding payments by the due dates (next instalment of \$60 is due by 1st August), in order that we can make the best preparation for another fun camp. Towards the end of term, students will have some 'teamwork' sessions, where they will learn more about what will happen at camp, be issued with equipment lists and they will be able to select their own cabin groups.



Blogging

In Semester 1, students studied cyber-safety issues and appropriate online behaviours. They were then introduced to the use of class blogs. These class blogs were launched last term with great success, acting as a 'window into our classrooms' to help celebrate the great work being done in school. Our class blogs are as follows:

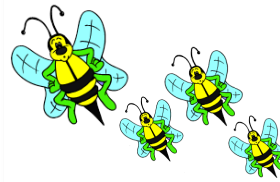
Grade 5A: <http://bps5a.global2.vic.edu.au>

Grade 5B: <http://vciappara.global2.vic.edu.au>

Grade 5C: <http://missonofretchook.global2.vic.edu.au>



Access passwords are provided to students (please ask your child) and all comments are checked before posting online. We welcome your feedback on how we are doing.



Grade 4/5 Sport Rotations

The Grade 4 and 5 teams will be running a series of rotations this term, introducing students to new sports and skills. This will be an opportunity for students to work in teams, develop sportsmanship qualities, and work with different teachers across grade levels, in preparation for the Grade 4/5 camp program at the start of Term 4.



Weekly Maths Rotations

Maths rotations will continue this term, once a week, offering support and extension opportunities. Students in the extension group will be participating in a series of projects to extend their application of advanced mathematical skills. Nine students have also been selected to take part in the Australian Mathematics Competition.



Spelling Bee & Maths '24' Competitions

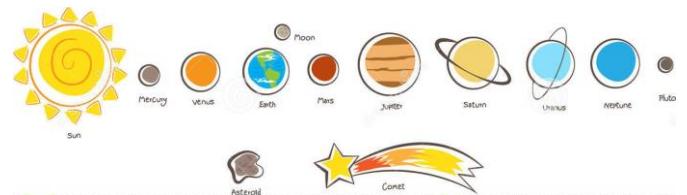
All classes will be running spelling competitions in order to select entries for the 2014 Wyndham Spelling Bee competition. There will be one entry at the 3/4 and 5/6 grade levels, with the Wyndham final to be held on the evening of Tuesday 26th August.

We will also be running an in-house 'Maths 24' competition, allowing small class teams to challenge their mental arithmetic skills with other talented students.



Term 3 Project - Our Place in Space

This term we will be completing a science unit, learning about the make-up of our Earth and its place in the Solar System. Students will conduct a variety of experiments to see how different materials change between states of matter. They will then explore the wonders of the universe, looking at famous scientists and important discoveries.



Green Screen Technology and Multi-Media Project

So far this year, students have learned various movie-making techniques, including creating short claymation movies and preparing short sketches using FLIP cameras, to support our School Wide Positive Behaviours Program. This term we will look at advanced animation techniques using software such as Kahootz and Pivot. Students will be introduced to 'Green Screening'. This involves capturing short pieces of video and super-imposing these into a variety of virtual backgrounds. They will then create a multi-media project using these techniques. 'The Universe is their oyster!'



Earn and Learn Program and School Wide Positive Behaviours - Rewarding Great Effort

Last term, many students enjoyed a 'gold class' party session for their outstanding efforts in class and on homework tasks. We will continue with our class rewards program, where students can earn money tokens for good work and leadership behaviours. They will have further opportunities to purchase a variety of rewards this term.

Our School Wide 'bee' token reward system will also continue, including opportunities for whole class rewards. Our Grade 5s have accumulated multiple bee hives/tokens which they will be able to trade in for some bumper prizes. Let's aim for the magic 100 bee hives for the BONUS COMBO AWARDS!

We look forward to working in partnership with you again this term and achieving further great success.

Regards, Grade 5 Team. ☺