

GRADE 5 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 2, 2015~

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back, ready for another busy term ahead. We had a great Term 1, with our carnival, swimming galas, Grand Prix trip and the ongoing success of the 1:1 netbook program.

Some key dates for your diaries:

NAPLAN - Tues 12th - Thurs.14th May

Family Maths Night - Wed. 20th May

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday - Monday 8th June

Mid Year Reports go home - Friday 19th June

Parent / Teacher Interviews - Mon. 22nd & Tues. 23rd June

End of Term 2 - Friday 26th June



N.A.P.L.A.N.

In week 5, our Grade 5s will be participating in the N.A.P.L.A.N. tests. The students will be well prepared, but we must stress that this is just a one-off assessment and it is important that students should not feel anxious in any way.

There will be no homework set in week 5, and we ask that normal routines are provided at home, in order that children are refreshed for each day and suffering no additional anxieties. We would greatly appreciate that all students arrive punctually each day, as late arrival not only affects the start to your child's day, but also their fellow classmates. We wish our students well!

Grade 4/5 Camp 2015 - Notes of Interest

Our school camp will be in Term 4 this year, Wednesday 14th - Friday 16th October. We will be heading off on our bush camp to Arrabri Lodge, Warburton (check out their website: www.Arrabri.com.au). In order to make preparations and finalise costs, we will be sending out notes of interest very soon. It would be great if all our Grade 4/5 students could attend, to build some great life-long skills. We understand that it's a large financial commitment and we will arrange payment plans to try and help stagger costs.



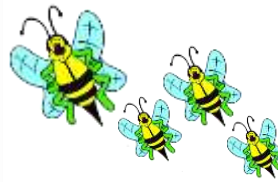
Grade 5 Netbooks and Claymation Fun!!

The 1:1 netbook program continues to grow and support student learning in many ways. Thank you for your outstanding support of the program.

Any parents who still wish to make the second installment, can still do so, allowing your child to have use of their netbook at home, with full insurance coverage. As you will have noticed with the homework layout, there is a large emphasis on incorporating netbook skills and utilising programs we have introduced in class.

This term's skills focus will re-visit Claymation work, which students were introduced to in Grade 4. They will create short animations in association with their topic study, looking at advanced skills in using cameras, editing and post production. **We look forward to a great animation Oscars Awards!!!**





Term 2 Project - "Such was Life" - Life in the Australian Colonies in the 1800s

This term's project will focus on history and geography skills, looking primarily at the period after settlement until the late 1800s. The project will have a more local 'Victoria' focus area, looking at why local townships were established and what were the general living conditions at the time. A specific learning area will look at the impact of the Gold Rush and how this helped shape many parts of Victoria. We will also consider the many viewpoints regarding the famous bushranger Ned Kelly - villain or victim? Students will develop a better understanding of chronology and how to interpret historical evidence. Each student will also choose an area of history to study and create an individual research project.



Blogging Time

In Term 1, students studied cyber-safety issues and appropriate online behaviours. They were then introduced to the use of class blogs. Each child had the opportunity to create their own blog template, with the best ideas being incorporated into the class blog. These class blogs will be launched in Term 2, 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: www.grade5a2015.global2.vic.edu.au

Grade 5B: www.grade5b2015.global2.vic.edu.au

Grade 5C: www.grade5c2015.global2.vic.edu.au



Access passwords will be provided to access these sites very soon, and all comments will be checked before posting online. We welcome your feedback on how we are doing.

Mid-Year Reports and Parent Meetings

Thank you to all those parents who attended the introductory parent meetings, helping to establish strong partnerships for the best outcomes of our students.



Later this term, teachers will prepare semester 1 reports for each student to give you an indication of the academic progress made so far this year. There will then be follow up parent meetings in the last week of term, where there will be the opportunity to discuss the report in more detail. We encourage that students and parents share these reports together and discuss learning goals for semester 2.

Term 2 Homework

Homework will begin again in week 2, and continue each week throughout term, except week 5 (NAPLAN week). It will follow a similar format to Term 1, with a large focus on netbook specific activities to try and consolidate the skills learned in class. It will again be handed out and explained on Monday and will be expected back each Friday for correction.

Grade 5 Earn and Learn Program

We will continue with our class rewards program, where students can earn money tokens for good work and leadership behaviours. At the end of Term 1, most students had a Gold Class reward movie for their efforts, as well as having the opportunity to purchase a variety of other rewards.

We look forward to working in partnership with you again this term and having a very successful end to the first semester. **Regards, Grade 5 Team.** ☺

