

# GRADE 5 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 1 2021 ~

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to all of the students and parents who will be part of the Grade 5 team this year.

The grades are as follows:

**Grade 5A (Room 23) - Mrs Samantha Simpson**

**Grade 5B (Room 24) - Miss Monika Mikula**

**Grade 5C (Room 27) - Miss Liz Purcell**

**Grade 5D (Room 27A) - Miss Rebecca Guest**

**Tutor Learning Initiative - Mrs Emma Bews**

Thank you to all those parents who made sure that their child had a hat, art smock and library bag 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 and happy start to the year for students.

## KEY DATES

Fri 5/2 - Bellbridge Swimming Competition

Tue 9/2 - Safer Internet Day

Mon 15/2-Tue 16/2 - Parent-Teacher Meetings (PSD-funded SSGs this week also)

Mon 8/3 - LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY (No school)

Fri 19/3 - National Ride 2 School Day

Fri 19/3 - National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

Fri 19/3 - Grade 5/6 Grand Prix

Mon 29/3 - Grade 3-6 Cross Country

Fri 1/4 - Free Dress Day & Last day of term (1:40 dismissal)

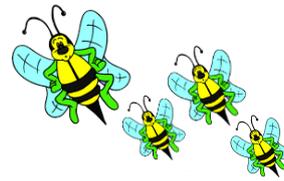
*\*Keep up to date with key dates by looking at the front page of the monthly school newsletter, and referring to our school website's calendar.*

## ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

Parent attendance at school assemblies was not able to continue for most of last year, and we will need to continue in this way until further notice.

Assemblies will be held for staff and students using Microsoft Teams video meetings or the gym according to health advice - at approx. 1:50pm on the following Fridays, except the last day of term - as communicated closer to the date.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
29/1	5/2	12/2	19/2	26/2	5/3	12/3	19/3	26/3	1/4
No assembly	3-6	P-2	3-6	P-2	3-6	P-2	3-6	P-2	P-6 (Thurs)



## 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 5 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



## TERM 1 INQUIRY UNIT: Be safe and respectful online

This term we will be exploring computers, netbooks and the internet. Students will learn about cyber-safety and how we can be proficient global citizens in an ever-changing world. We will continue to develop our 1:1 netbook program, building on the core skills from last year and develop guidelines for working online, with the later intention of setting up class blogs.

## ENGLISH IN TERM 1

Students will be expected to complete 20 minutes of independent reading in class each day. During this time, teachers will be completing one-on-one reading conferences with students, to determine appropriate reading goals for your child. Reading activities in class will involve focusing on a range of comprehension strategies. In writing sessions, students will be focusing on persuasive writing, where they will have the opportunity to be involved in class and year level debates. They will also have a weekly spelling and grammar focus.

## MATHEMATICS IN TERM 1

This week, students will be completing a Term 1 pre-test as a maths assessment, which will give classroom teachers an indication of existing skills and understandings, and will be used to drive our teaching this term. We will also be focusing on the following areas:

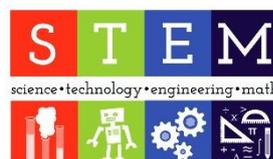
**Number and Algebra:** Place Value, Operations and Problem-Solving

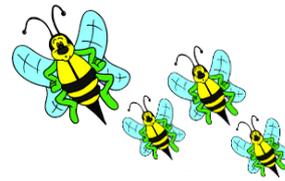
**Measurement and Geometry:** Time

Students will complete weekly maths challenges in class, to instil good mental calculation practices.

## SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

Students will receive specialist tuition in the areas of Physical Education, AUSLAN (Sign Language), STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), and Performing Arts (Semester 1) then Art (Semester 2). There may also be the opportunity for Grade 5s to participate in interschool sport with our Grade 6 students throughout the year.





### SCHOOL TIMES

School starts for all students at 8:20am and students have tasks to complete from the first bell, while the rolls are taken and money/letters are being collected. ***Late arrival can seriously hinder student progress and will make it hard for them to settle into the daily routines.***



### HATS

During Term 1 and Term 4, students are required to wear blue hats (i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hat), whenever they are outside. Students not wearing a hat will be required to play in the courtyard during recess and lunch.

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

In order to provide the best learning opportunities for your child, we want to ensure the best home-school partnership possible. We are therefore keen for all parents to meet with their child's classroom teacher at the start of the year. We look forward to speaking with you on the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> February (details to follow soon about booking on Compass).

### NETBOOKS

The Grade 5s will be undertaking their second year in the netbook program, building on the great work and skill development done in Grade 4. Please ensure home users bring their netbooks to school, each day, fully charged.

We are hoping that as many of you will take up the lease option (\$70 per term, or \$250 for the whole year paid up-front), in order that your child can have the use of their netbook to fully utilise the online subscriptions available at home. Those parents who paid \$70 before the holidays can still get the discounted annual cost, by paying the remaining \$180 as soon as possible.



### ONGOING COMMUNICATION - STUDENT DIARIES

Diaries will be given to all students and we ask that they are checked and signed by parents each week (beginning in Week 2). This is a great way for students to organise their school and home demands, also ensuring parents and teachers have effective communication with each other.

If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please feel free to arrange an appropriate time. Problems are usually easier to resolve if they are dealt with promptly.

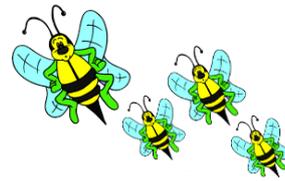
If your child is absent/sick/late, please inform us in writing or on Compass so that the office can maintain up to date records.



### GRADE 4/5 CAMP

This year the Grade 4/5 school camp will be held at Arrabri Lodge, Warbuton. This is our three day 'bush' camp and takes place from Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. The cost will be approximately \$270. We hope as many children as possible will be able to participate in this positive experience and we will be sending out notes in Term 2 to begin organising this year's camp.





### **SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS & EARN AND LEARN**

In keeping with the establishment of the whole school approach to student wellbeing, Grade 5 students will be involved in discussing common rights and responsibilities and how these impact on classrooms, and the school in general. Students will receive rewards through collecting individual bee tokens, whole-class beehives, as well as the Grade 5 Earn and Learn incentive program.



### **ACTIVE TRAVEL**

Every Wednesday is 'Wheel and Walk Wednesday', where we encourage students to walk or ride a bike, scooter, or skateboard to school. For those that live too far from school, we encourage students to get dropped off on one of our Active Paths and walk or ride the rest of the way. Each Wednesday, classroom teachers collect data on how our students travelled to school. We have seen great improvements in our school's active travel rate since the implementation of this program, and we look forward to seeing this rate continue to improve.



### **INTERSCHOOL SPORT**

This year, a small number of Grade 5 students will have the opportunity to support the Grade 6's with Interschool Sports. This will be of no extra charge, and will reward students for not only exceptional athletic skills, but also their attitude and effort in the classroom.

### **MOBILE PHONES & SMART WATCHES**

In accordance with school policy, all mobile phones and smart watches will 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.



We look forward to working in partnership with you this year and having a very successful 2021 year.

Regards,  
Grade 5 Team.