

GRADE 6 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 1 2018 ~

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. 19: Mr Malcolm Sutherland

Grade 6B, Rm. 20: Miss Samantha Dean

Grade 6C, Rm. 21: Miss Jessica Fanning

Grade 6D, Rm. 22: Mr Jaxon Leith

Thank you to all those parents who made sure that their child had a hat, art smock, library bag and box of tissues 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.

Some key dates for your diaries this term:

Wednesday 7th February - Swimming District Try-outs (selected students)

Mon. 19th & Tues. 20th February - Parent/Teacher 'Meet and Greet'

Friday 26th February – Grade 3-6 Athletics Carnival

Thursday 8th March – Summer Sport Lightning Premiership

Monday 12th March - Labour Day Holiday

Friday 16th March – School Carnival

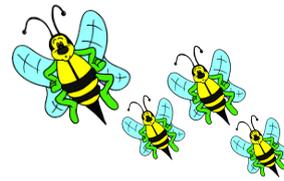
Thursday 29th March - Last day of Term 1

Parent/Teacher Meetings

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, to discuss any concerns and plan the best learning environment for your child. Please book a time that suits for the 19th or 20th of February through Compass once you receive advice that booking are open. We look forward to meeting you.

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 towards the end of Term 1 to be completed.



Netbooks

The Grade 6s will be straight into the netbook program, building on the great work and skill development undertaken over the last two years. Please ensure home users bring their netbooks to school each day, fully charged.



We look forward to full participation in our netbook program, including use of weekly homework tasks. Those parents who paid \$60 before the holidays can still get the discounted annual cost, by paying the remaining \$140 - due 1/2/18. (Remember if you have participated in the program throughout, full ownership will shift to the student at the end of this year.)

Homework

Homework will begin in Week 2, with homework standards established during class in Week 1. Homework will be handed out throughout the course of the week with reasonable time frames given for specific tasks. ***It will also include netbook options for those who have use of netbooks at home.***



Homework expectations are:

Daily: To read for 30 minutes (noted in diary and parent signed).

Weekly: Complete classwork tasks in timeframes assigned (may be daily or weekly) in preparation for secondary school homework expectations.

Homework should not be stressful or too time consuming. These activities support what is being done in class and students should aim to complete each task to the best of their ability.

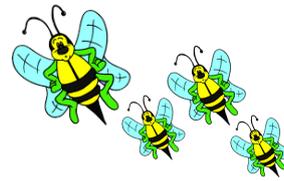
Class Supplies - Students have been provided with their initial classroom supplies. Students are responsible for all their additional stationary requirements, if these items are used or lost replacements will need to be provided from home.

Ongoing communication - Student Diaries

Diaries will be given to all students and we ask that they are checked and signed by parents each week. This is a great way for the students to organise school and homework demands, also ensuring parents and teachers have effective two-way communication. Students are expected to have the diary with them at all times. We ask a parent/guardian to sign the diary each week as it will be checked and signed off by the classroom teacher.

Communication with the classroom teacher

If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please feel free to arrange an appropriate meeting 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 so that the office can maintain up-to-date records.



Term 1 Units

Inquiry topic - Parliament of Wizards

Our inquiry topic will be covering the areas of Economics & Business, Geography, and Civics and Citizenship - through an engaging look at the Parliamentary System of Australia. Students will learn about needs and wants within a society and the structure of the democratic representative system of Australia, participating as a member of an imaginary electorate in sittings of our 'Parliament of Wizards'.



English

During reading in Term 1, the 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

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 weekly math challenges. Focus areas for this term will include place value, operations, temperature and problem-solving strategies.

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, followed by an interview with Mrs Clancy and Mrs Hunt, and the finalists speaking in front of all of the Grade 5 and 6 students, finishing with a vote. Congratulations to all the students participating as the quality of all were outstanding. **Leadership badges will be presented at our weekly assembly soon** and families will be notified.

Leadership Team

Nadja Probst
Demi Cahoon

Ksenia Yarshevich
Ebony Raudino

Joey Citro
Kate Kennett

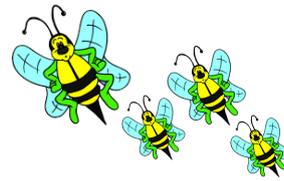
House Captains-

Coker - Adam Alobaidi & Grace Walker
Hughes - Radha Barot & Ethan Brownrigg

Middleton - Aimee Bounden & Tarkan Jeffrey
Gillard - Ryan Tesoriero & Liyana Balla

Specialist Programs

Students will attend specialist classes in the areas of P.E., Art, STEM and Performing Arts. These will be rotated throughout the year, with students having at least 3 specialist sessions



per week. Look out for the Specialists' newsletter each term, for more information on what is being covered.

Grade 6 Camp - Mt. Morton 17th Sept - 21st Sept

This year the Grade 6 School Camp will be held at Mt. Morton Camp (Mel Ref: 84 D3). This is a five-day camp and takes place from Mon. 17th - Fri. 21st Sept. The cost has typically been approximately \$310, but will be advised closer to Term 3. We hope as many children as possible will be able to participate in this positive experience and we will be sending out notes of interest in Term 2.



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. For those who took advantage of our early order process last year, we are expecting receipt of this order by Week 3. A final opportunity to order these items will be made available with forms to be sent home soon and delivery by the end of Term 1 or early Term 2. Please note that the school's uniform policy will apply: "Hoods on '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. This competition will run through the course of Term 1 and 2, with weekly practise and trials against Truganina South Primary School to prepare our teams for a single day carnival, which decides district champions. Permissions and any cost will be uploaded to compass shortly.

School Times

School starts for all students at 8:20am and it's important that all students are here on time, as in addition to classroom learning, each grade is assigned a Prep Buddy grade to read with each morning. This has been a very successful program that builds connections across year levels, responsibility and communications skills.



*****Late arrival can seriously hinder a student's progress and will make it hard to settle into the daily routines.****

School Wide Positive Behaviours & Earn and Learn

Be SAFE Be RESPECTFUL Be RESPONSIBLE Be a LEARNER



In keeping with the establishment of the whole school approach to student well-being, Grade 6 students will be involved in discussing common rights and responsibilities and how these impact on classrooms, the Grade 6 Learning Zone and the school in general. Students will receive rewards through collecting individual BEE tokens.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year and having a very successful 2018.

Regards, Grade 6 Team. ☺