

GRADE 6 NEWSLETTER

~ Term 1 2020 ~

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. 21: Mr Malcolm Sutherland

Grade 6B, Rm. 22: Miss Jessica Fanning

Grade 6C, Rm. 19: Mr Sean Clancy

Grade 6D, Rm. 20: Ms Lauren Ewen

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 start to the year for our students.

KEY DATES

Fri 31/1 - Interschool Sport Trials

Fri 7/2 - 3-6 Swimming Competition (selected students)

Tue 11/2 - Safer Internet Day

Mon 17/2 - Tue 18/2 - Parent-Teacher Meetings (PSD-funded SSGs this week also)

Friday 21/2 - First Inter-school sport match vs Trug. Sth

Mon 9/3 - LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY (No school)

Fri 13/3 - National Ride 2 School Day

Mon 23/3 - Summer Sport Gala Day

Fri 27/3 - Free Dress Day & Last day of Term 1 (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

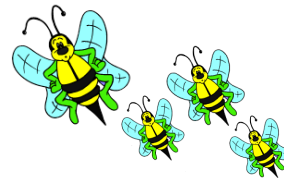
Assemblies will be held in the school gym at approx. 1:50pm on the following Fridays, except the last day of term - as communicated closer to the date.

| Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 | Week 7 | Week 8 | Week 9 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 31/1 | 7/2 | 14/2 | 21/2 | 28/2 | 6/3 | 13/3 | 20/3 | 27/3 |
| 3-6 | P-2 | 3-6 | P-2 | 3-6 | P-2 | P-6 | P-2 | P-6 |

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 6 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

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 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 17th/18th February through Compass once you receive advice that bookings are open. We look forward to meeting you.

Secondary School

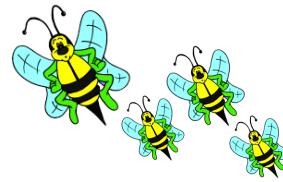
As this is your child's final year of primary school, hopefully some thought has been made regarding a secondary school. We strongly encourage you to visit the information nights offered by the secondary schools in the area to get a feel for which school is right for your child. A number of the schools 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, and for those parents who paid \$60 before the holidays can still get the discounted annual cost, by paying the remaining \$140 as soon as possible. (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.

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.

Weebly - As part of the ongoing development of our student's computer literacy, each student will create their own 'Weebly' webpage to share work they have completed through the course of the year. This program is password protected and requires parental consent, please read the detailed explanation of this program and complete consent on Compass. If you have any further enquiries, please ask your classroom teacher.

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.

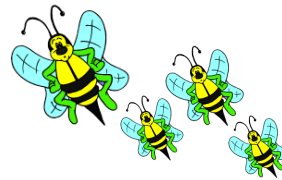
Mobile Phones

In accordance with school policy, all mobile phones 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.

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 electorate of their creation 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

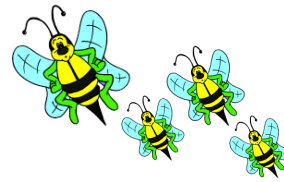
Students in Grade 6 have the privileged responsibility of being the leaders of our school. During transition last year, students were offered an opportunity to compete for one of the official leadership roles this year. This involved a process of preparing and presenting a speech to their peers for a class nomination, followed by an interview with Mrs Clancy and Miss Onofretchok, 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 assembly on Friday 31st January.**

Leadership Team

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Isa Balla | Jack Clarke | Mouna El Haouli |
| Ezekiel Mitchell | Pranav Pavan | Sanjana Shivashankaran |

House Captains-

Coker - Chloe Sammut & Lydia Godfrey *Gillard* - Evi Dahanayake & Georgia Voinescu
Hughes - Ivena-Lee Lewis & Joshua Faamausili *Middleton* - Dim Samte & Jack Monroe



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 - Wombat Corner, Emerald 18th Aug - 21st Aug

This year the Grade 6 School Camp will be held at Wombat Corner, Emerald. This is a four-day camp and takes place from Tues. 18th - Fri. 21st August. The cost will be approximately \$350, 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. We have had an outstanding number of families take advantage of our early order process last year, and will shortly begin a final opportunity to order these items directly through Noone Hoppers Crossing store (54 Old Geelong Rd, Hoppers Crossing) with receipt due 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.

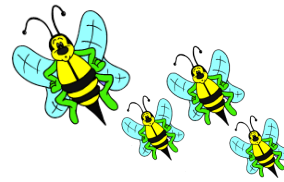
Interschool Sport

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, 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 costs 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

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 in 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 2020.

Regards, Grade 6 Team. 😊