

SPECIALIST TEAM NEWSLETTER

~ Term 1, 2020 ~

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Prep students will initially be exposed to a safety in sports unit, including the safe use of indoor and outdoor equipment and play. They will also participate in team-building activities which focus on rules and success in P.E. Students will then be focusing on the fundamental motor skill of throwing and catching, including the overarm and underarm throw, as this allows them to form a good physical development foundation for any future sports and activities they may pursue.

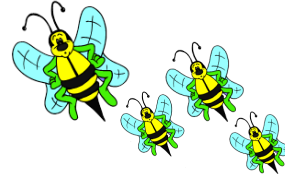
Grade 1 and 2 students will initially be exposed to a unit on sportsmanship, correct behavior and rules in P.E., including the safe use of indoor and outdoor equipment and play. They will also participate in team-building activities which focus on being a great learner in P.E. Students will then be focusing on the fundamental motor skill of throwing and catching, including the overarm and underarm throw, as this allows them to further develop their skill to form a good physical development foundation for any future sports and activities they may pursue.

Grade 3 and 4 students will be focusing on the popular sport of volleyball, including variations such as sitting volleyball and Newcomb. Students will then be challenged with a range of fitness tests, including endurance, speed and agility for the upcoming Cross Country event in Term 2.

Grade 5 and 6 students will be focusing on red ball tennis, incorporating skills such as the serve, forehand and backhand strike. Students will then be challenged with a range of fitness tests including endurance, speed and agility for the upcoming Cross Country event in Term 2.

Cruze Henshaw and Alycia Morgan

Physical Education Teachers



VISUAL ARTS

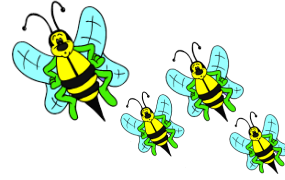
Prep students' will be introduced to the art room and their main focus for term 1 will be on fine motor skills. They will be practising cutting skills and pencil grip. Students will be exploring colours and will be introduced to the three primary colours - red, blue and yellow. They will create drawings and self-portraits using equipment safely. Students will experiment with drawing a variety of lines and draw them using a variety of items such as textas, pencils and crayons. They will explore events such as Easter, Harmony Day and Valentine's Day through art. They will also create paintings and paint within a given boundary as well as on a variety of surfaces. Students will paint using a variety of media such as fingers, toothbrushes and sponges.

Grade 1 and 2 students will be focusing on drawing and painting in term 1. They will revise the primary colours - red, blue and yellow, and mix paint to create the secondary colours - orange, purple and green. They will learn to paint using texture by spattering, sponging, applying dye and resisting. They will learn how to create smudging effects when drawing with pencil and charcoal. Students will also learn about a variety of line drawings, and look at pattern and repetition to create their own zentangle. (A method of creating images from repetitive patterns).

Grades 3 and 4 students will be studying monochrome and will learn how to add tint and shade to a colour. They will draw and paint a monochrome picture. They will also learn about perspective, form and size. They will draw using a variety of tools such as ink, pen and chalk. Students will study complementary and contrasting colours. They will use oil pastels and then paint to create a wax resist picture, and they will engage in charcoal sketching to create tone.

Lisa Keem, Adele Gilligan, Mel Russell

Visual Arts Teachers



PERFORMING ARTS

Foundation (Prep) students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will be bringing story books to life and exploring the world of acting, role playing and displaying and reading different emotions.

Grade 1 students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will use drama to retell stories from books. They will learn how to take on a role of another person, including inferring that character's feelings and using voice, facial expression and body language to convey these feelings to others.

Grade 2 students will be using puppets to retell stories from a third person point of view. They will learn about staying in character and projecting the character and actions of their puppet. They will work on understanding the use of narrative structure in stories. They will discuss the messages conveyed in traditional European and Indigenous Australian stories.

Grade 3 students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will discuss the writer's intent for narratives through viewing and discussing the First Australian's story 'The Rainbow Serpent'. They will also learn about the narrative structure of plays, identifying the beginning (scene setting), problem (climax) and resolution of simple stories. They will learn how to present readers' theatres and convert these into plays which they will create and perform while also getting the chance to be the director of the play.

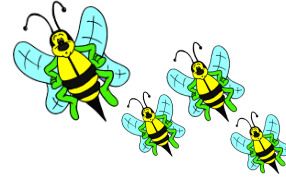
Grade 4 students will be focusing on the art of Drama. They will be learning how to improvise in a range of different scenarios. This will include learning about using body language, voice projection and facial expressions to convey a story or message to the audience. Throughout the term they will also be delving into the skill of comedy, including stand-up comedy (individually) and skits (as a group).

Grade 5 students will be focusing on the art of Music. They will be using the Guitar and Ukulele. When learning about the Guitar and Ukulele, they will explore several different chords and strumming patterns, which will enable them to play some different songs. They will also be exposed to music throughout the term and analyse this music.

Grade 6 students will be exploring the art of Music. They will be focusing on building the skills of song writing. They will be composing their own lyrics and singing along to backing tracks as groups. They will be making the lyrics rhyme and fit into the song's beat. They will also be analysing different songs and genres throughout the term.

Alycia Morgan and Joan Hofmann

Performing Arts Teachers



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Grade 3 – students will be focussing on teamwork skills through earthquake engineering. Students will be working in groups and use the design thinking process to engineer a solution to the destructive nature of an earthquake. They will investigate different materials and structural processes that affect the integrity and shear of a building. Students will regularly evaluate their work using a shake table (of their own making) and work to improve their creations.

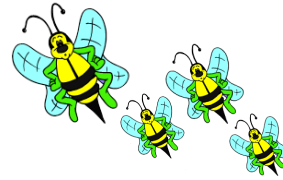
Grade 4 - students will be investigating the story of ‘Caine’s Arcade’, where a 9 year old boy became an overnight internet sensation after his cardboard creations were featured in a documentary. Students will participate in their own cardboard challenge and work as part of a team to develop a functioning game. There will be emphasis on growth mindset and the design thinking cycle, where students are encouraged to challenge themselves and evaluate their work in meaningful ways.

Grade 5 – students will begin to explore some of the exciting possibilities in the world of coding and robotics. They will learn basic programming concepts in an interactive ‘unplugged’ manner (without the use of technology), and will also have the opportunity to use block coding within a variety of platforms including Blockly, Code.org, Hour of Code, and Scratch. Finally, they will apply their new skills to command an Edison Robot to complete various challenges. Students will have opportunities to work with their peers as a means of further developing their interpersonal skills.

Grade 6 - students will explore the way that electricity moves around a circuit. They will be encouraged to apply their understanding in creative ways and develop persistence during problem-solving tasks. Students will have the opportunity to use exciting technology, such as Makey Makey, when designing an interactive piece of their choice.

Nick Bevilacqua

STEM Teacher



AUSLAN

Auslan (Australian Sign Language) is a uniquely Australian visual language.

As an inclusive school that welcomes and caters for all forms of communication, students are taught to communicate through this rich, visual language.

Using Auslan, students will be able to demonstrate single signs and simple signed sequences on many topics, recognise signs to obtain meaning in a short conversation or signed text, follow instructions, simple dialogue and participate in games and activities. Importantly, students recognise, demonstrate and respect some of the differences between Auslan and spoken languages.

Within Auslan lessons this term, students will typically practise:

- signing vocabulary on the allocated topic
- reading back signs connected to the fingerspelling alphabet, numbers and greetings
- learning strategies for getting the attention of a Deaf or hard of hearing person using demonstrated tactics
- tips for communicating with a Deaf or hard of hearing person
- using descriptive signs and location for following directions.
- skills in using and understanding Auslan in a variety of ways throughout the school year and in the curriculum.

Mim Stewart
Auslan Teacher