

SPECIALIST TEAM NEWSLETTER

~ Term 4, 2018 ~

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Prep students will be focusing on a variety of fundamental motor skills, such as bounce and ball control, which allows them to form a fantastic physical development foundation for any future sports and activities they may pursue. Students will then learn about basketball, focusing on the key rules and skills involved, including: dribbling, shooting and passing. Students will also focus on teamwork games and using the fundamental motor skills they have learnt throughout the year, applying these in a variety of teamwork-based activities.

Grade 1 and 2 students will begin the term by participating in a 6-week unit on striking. Students will be learning to strike a ball using an array of equipment, including: baseball bats, tennis racquets and hockey sticks. They will focus on the correct technique to efficiently strike a stationary and moving object. Students will also focus on teamwork games and using the fundamental motor skills they have learnt throughout the year, applying these in a variety of teamwork-based activities.

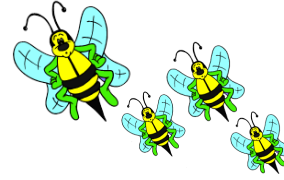
Grade 3 and 4 students will begin the term by focusing on the sport of tee-ball and will learn in-depth rules and features of the game. Skills such as batting, fielding and decision making will be a main focal point of the unit. Students will then be participating in a gymnastics/ninja warrior unit that will allow them to practice these fun activities and movements in a safe environment with a focus on skills, such as: balancing, jumping, swinging and rolling.

Grade 5 students will begin the term by focusing on the sport of baseball and will learn in-depth rules and features of the game. Skills such as batting, fielding and decision making will be a main focal point of the unit. In the lead up to Grade 6, Grade 5 students will learn about the sports they are able to choose from in Grade 6 interschool sport and will have a chance to pick a sport for the following year. This will be followed by fitness testing to compare their results from the start of the year.

Grade 6 students will begin the term by focusing on the sport of baseball and will learn in-depth rules and features of the game. Skills such as batting, fielding and decision making will be a main focal point of the unit. This will be followed by a unit of Bike Education following on from last year's comprehensive program and will aim to assist students in developing their confidence in riding their bike outside of the school. Students will also participate in fitness testing to compare their results from the start of the year.

Cruze Henshaw and Alycia Morgan
Physical Education Teachers





VISUAL ARTS

Prep students will be learning about spatial awareness and construction. Students will be learning about different ways to roll, fold and weave paper to create a variety of objects, such as puppets. They will use sand to create a picture of Australian animals. Icy pole sticks will be used to construct puppet-like characters, Christmas trees and Christmas presents. They will also manipulate and paint clay to make decorative Christmas objects and use paint to make Christmas lights.

Grade 1 and 2 students will continue to learn about using a variety of materials for modelling. They will use air-dried clay and paper clay to create a variety of objects. Students will learn about Aboriginal art and create a sand art picture using wooden objects and a variety of yarns and string. They will roll, fold and weave paper to create a variety of objects and will also learn to fold paper in a variety of ways to create objects, such as a chatterbox.

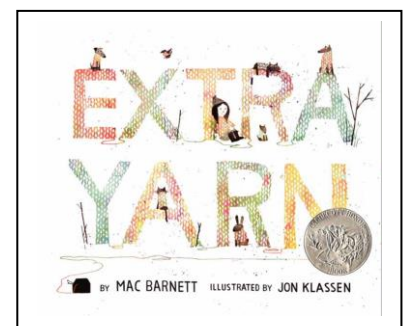
Grade 5 and 6 students will complete an artist study of James Rizzi. Students will learn about surrealist art (“surrealism”) - a movement in art and literature that flourished in the early twentieth century. Surrealism aimed at expressing imaginative dreams and visions free from conscious rational control (dictionary.com). They will engage in “The Box Doodle Project”, which involves creating a character within the net of a recycled box. Students will design, draw and paint their own skateboard design.

Naomi Bennett
Visual Arts Teacher

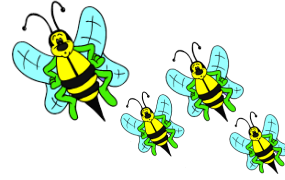
PERFORMING ARTS

Prep students will be working in the domain of music this term. They will learn to sing various songs by Peter Combe. Students will also learn how to make music using body percussion skills. The concepts of beat, rhythm, dynamics, pitch and expression will be introduced. Students will learn to play in sync using beat and rhythm, represented by simple musical notation. We will focus on the self-monitoring and self-control skills needed to play instruments using music sheets.

Grade 1 and 2 students will be learning how to play musical instruments called boomwhackers. These are plastic pipes of varying lengths that play different musical notes, depending on the length of the pipe. Students will continue to learn about reading music, with the concept of note position on a staff determining the pitch of the note being explored. They will learn to play simple tunes through group cooperation and focus on using beat and rhythm notation to play in sync.



Grade 3 students will continue to learn about using beat and rhythm while playing djembes and bongos (African drums). They will learn how to strum and play several chords on the ukulele, which will lead to them learning how to play simple Christmas songs. They will make their own set of bells and learn how to play them.



Grade 4 students will continue to learn about the keyboard, including: the chords, scales and how to read notation of music. They will learn to play a new song and also get the chance to change the lyrics of a song to create their own version. Students will also be creating their own instruments in STEM and be playing these in Performing Arts, while trying to create a 'Trash Orchestra'. Nearing the end of the year, they will also learn some Christmas songs on the keyboards and bells.

Alycia Morgan and Joan Hofmann
Performing Arts Teachers

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Grade 3 students will explore 'Pollution Solutions', a unit focusing on the environment and sustainability via a series of true-to-life problem-solving tasks. They will be provided with opportunities to further develop their interpersonal skills by means of group work, and will use a variety of tools and materials to build and test their designs.

Grade 4 students will investigate the science of sound, as they design and create their own musical instruments using predominantly recycled materials. This is a cross-curricular unit, where the creations will be then taken to Performing Arts and used to compose a piece of music. Following this, we will continue to explore how we might use materials in creative ways. In alignment with the book by Mac Barnett, we pose the question 'what would you do with 'Extra Yarn'?' Emphasis is placed on growth mindset and the design thinking cycle, where students are encouraged to challenge themselves and view failed attempts as opportunities for learning.

Grade 5 students will continue to build on their understanding of simple machines as they investigate Rube Goldberg, and design their own contraption that is deliberately over-engineered to perform a simple task in a complicated fashion. Students will have opportunities to work with their peers as a means of further developing their interpersonal skills. Following this, students will explore coding and robotics using Edison robots.

Grade 6 students will be encouraged to transition from being consumers to being creators, as they continue to explore various coding platforms and develop their own video games. We will also experience online design software which supports three-dimensional printing and carving. There will be an emphasis on design thinking, and students will be encouraged to meet project requirements in innovate ways.

Sarah Murphy,
STEM Teacher

