

Year 5 Teaching and Learning – Term 1

A warm welcome back to all of our existing families and a special welcome to all of our new families. We commend all of the year 5 students, and their families, for upholding the Westgarth Primary School values and enabling us to get off to a terrific start.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our information evening on Wednesday the 8th of February. If you were not able to attend, you can find a copy of the slide show presentation on the Westgarth Primary School website. Remember to make an appointment with your child's teacher if there is anything you would like to discuss.

DIARY DATES

Swimming lessons will commence on the **17th of March** and **continue daily until March 30th**



Class photo day will take place on **Tuesday March 21st** (no swimming lessons on this day)



TIMETABLE

	MONDAY <i>Assembly</i>	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY <i>Interschool sport</i>
5 Holly/Jane	Spanish/science Computer lab		Kitchen garden PE	Music	Spanish/art
5 Kylie	Library Spanish/art		Music	PE Kitchen garden	Spanish/science
5 Megan	Computer Lab Library	Spanish/art	Spanish/science	Kitchen garden PE	Music
5 Ruth	Library	Computer Lab. Kitchen Garden	Spanish/Science Music Spanish/Art		PE

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING THIS TERM IN THE CLASSROOM

ENGLISH

This year the grade 5s will be engaged in two main Reading programs – Literature Circles and CARS and STARS. Literature Circles are small groups who read and discuss the same novel. Literature Circles involve independent reading and work relating to an assigned role that must be completed before their in-class discussion or “Literature Circle.” CARS and STARS is a program consisting of 12 comprehension skills that are explicitly taught. During Reading sessions, students will read a variety of texts from a range of genres, including articles relating to our term 1 Inquiry topic “Australia, who are we?”

Our Writing focus for this term is Exposition/Persuasive Writing. Students will learn about the structures and features of Persuasive texts and practise forming arguments and backing up their ideas with evidence. Students will also work on their proof-reading and editing skills.

MATHEMATICS

Have you ever wondered how much is a million? If one million children stood on each other’s shoulders, would they really reach higher than aeroplanes can fly? This term we’ll be focusing on laying solid foundations in numeration and addition and subtraction facts. Students will also have the opportunity to explore and deeply understand really big numbers such as those that stretch well beyond a million. We’ll also have fun busting a few number myths along the way.



Students will continue getting to know each other and this time through data and statistics. Students will create accurate survey’s, collect real data and learn how to represent their data visually in different types of graphs. They will also learn that some graphs are more suited to particular sets of data than others and why.

INQUIRY

This term, the grade 5 students will be investigating Community and Change through our unit 'Australia, Who Are We?' Students will have the opportunity to research and investigate federation, colonisation, colonialism and their impact on Indigenous Australians, as well as how key Australians have shaped our country. The unit will culminate with the students making and presenting a movie pertinent to an aspect of the unit.

WELL-BEING

Quality Beginnings

The Quality Beginnings program all year 5s have been engaging in has allowed us to set high expectations for both our academic and social behaviour. The program has also helped us to get to know the new students in our class and build positive relationships with each other. You may like to ask your child about Growth Mindset, their class’s Code of Cooperation or their Rights and Responsibilities.

E Smart

Students have participated in many eSmart lessons these last few weeks, in preparation for them to become responsible ICT users. We have discussed what makes a good digital citizen, what is cyber bullying and the impact of our digital footprint. As well as, of course, reinforced the importance of taking care of all of our ICT equipment. Families are encouraged to continue these conversations at home. The students know to report any misuse of technology or inappropriate behaviour online to a trusted adult.

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING THIS TERM IN SPECIALIST CLASSES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This term the Grade 5s will be participating in a cricket unit while concentrating on learning to be a good sport. Students will consolidate their ball and striking skills in cricket and play some T20 cricket matches. Other units of work students will participate in this term are tennis and softball. The Grade 5s have all joined a summer sport team for interschool sport. The sports on offer were cricket, bat tennis, rounders and softball. Students will be involved in training and playing practise games at school every Friday morning. This will provide a great base for them to be involved in representing Westgarth and playing other schools when they reach Grade 6. Students who qualified to represent Westgarth at swimming will compete in District Swimming on Tuesday 28rd February.

MUSIC

This term in music, grade 5 students will be trying to reinvent and reinterpret simple folk songs. We will start by learning a traditional folk song such as “Heel and Toe Polka” using tuned percussion instruments. The next step is to deconstruct the song looking at the chord progressions and structure so that we can create an original interpretation using instruments that you might not expect to hear. The plan is to utilise the considerable instrumental talents of many of our students to create something new. We will also be continuing with the “Music Futures” program that started in 2015.

SPANISH/SCIENCE

Year 5 students will expand their Spanish vocabulary while learning about energy and the different sources that can be used to generate electricity. They will investigate how different objects can conduct electricity. Students will also explore how solar panels work. While doing this, students will be introduced to vocabulary regarding shops and everyday objects as well as exploring prepositions and structures to give directions.

SPANISH/VISUAL ARTS

In term one students in grade 5 have a really exciting project coming up, to spice up the computer room on the Brooke St site. We are going to make a mural to go on the wall of the computer room! We’re going to get inspiration from different technology platforms and artists to design our mural. Along the way we’re going to continue our journey in learning Spanish and progressively develop the vocabulary to communicate in the Spanish/Art classroom and describe our art. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.