



Year 6 Teaching and Learning – Term 1

A warm welcome back to a new year at Westgarth Primary from the Year 6 teachers, Glenn, Madeline, Mhairi and Tessa. Your child's final year at primary school is an exciting time, as well as being an incredibly busy year! This term we have many great events coming up, beginning with the Grade 6 Camp at Cave Hill Creek from Monday 12th February to Wednesday 14th February.



Diary dates for Year 6

Wednesday 7th February: Parent information session

Monday 12th February- Wednesday 14th February: Grade 6 camp

Tuesday 27th February: District swimming

Thursday 1st March: School photographs

Tuesday 6th March: Division swimming

Monday 12th March: Labour Day public holiday

Wednesday 14th March: Region swimming



Thursday 15th March: T20 Cricket day

Friday 16th March: Grade 3-6 daily swimming lessons begin

Monday 19th March to Wednesday 28th March: Daily swimming lessons

Thursday 29th March: last day of term 1, 2.30pm finish, no swimming.

What we are learning this term in the classroom

- **English term overview:**

Our writing program this term will focus on 'snapshot writing' to further develop students' descriptive writing skills and broadening vocabulary. We will also be exploring the processes of creating explanation texts as they link to our inquiry, and developing letter writing skills. Our reading will focus on supporting students to apply High Reliability Literacy Teaching Procedures to a range of texts to develop comprehension.

- **Mathematics term overview**

In maths this term, we will be focusing on multiplication and division, measurement and geometry, statistics and probability and problem solving. In particular, we will be covering:

- Multiplying by 2 digit numbers
- Solving division problems with up to 5 digit numbers
- Multiplying and dividing decimals by whole numbers
- Interpreting everyday timetables
- Measuring, calculating and comparing elapsed time.
- Analysing and evaluating data from secondary sources
- Constructing graphs (including using technology)

- **Inquiry term overview**

This term, year six students will be investigating physical and emotional wellbeing through our inquiry *Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds*. Students will explore the systems of the human body and how they interrelate, as well as developing an understanding of personal actions, such as a healthy diet and exercise, can contribute positively to the physical and emotional wellbeing of ourselves and others in the community. Students will then collaborate to design and deliver a lesson to help others improve an aspect of their physical or mental health.

Of course, no investigation into the human body would be complete without further developing our understanding of the reproductive system. Throughout this inquiry, students will participate in three Sexuality Education lessons which focus on *Growing and Changing, Conception* and *Belonging* while also including discussions about identifying someone trusted to talk to.

- **Social and emotional term overview**

Year six students have been consolidating existing friendships and building new relationships with their peers and teachers through their active participation in our Quality Beginnings program. The focus of Quality Beginnings this year has been getting to know each other – understanding and respecting our differences as well as our similarities – and problem-solving, through collaboration with different members of our learning community. The positive attitude which students have displayed towards each other and their learning augurs well for a successful year ahead.

Of course, come Monday 12 February, we'll be headed for Cave Hill Creek to continue our journey through the final year of primary school, where we hope the many and varied shared experiences of year six camp will further strengthen the special bond shared by this year's school leavers. Throughout the remainder of the term, students will continue to develop their understanding of concepts such as Emotional Literacy, Personal Strengths, Positive Coping and Problem-Solving through the Department of Education's *Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships* program.

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Cohort specialist timetable

	6 Mhairi	6 Tessa	6 Glenn	6 Madeline
Art	Tuesday Session 1	Tuesday Session 3	Thursday Session 1	Monday Session 2
Music	Tuesday Session 3	Thursday Session 1	Tuesday Session 1	Tuesday Session 2

Discovery	Thursday Session 2	Tuesday Session 5	Wednesday Session 1	Thursday Session 1
PE	Thursday Session 1	Wednesday Session 3	Wednesday Session 4	Tuesday Session 5
Kitchen/Garden	Thursday Session 5 + 6	Monday Session 5 + 6	Monday Session 1 + 2	Monday Session 3 + 4

Physical Education

This term the Grade 6s will be participating in a cricket unit while concentrating on being 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 bat tennis and tennis. The Grade 6s have all joined a summer sport team for interschool sport. The sports on offer were cricket, bat tennis, rounders and softball. When chosen in the weekly team, students will compete against other schools in our area. If it is an away game students will need to bring \$10 to cover the cost of the bus. Remember to always wear your Westgarth sports uniform to school on Fridays! We have two extra-curricular activities for Grade 6s this term. Students who qualified to represent Westgarth at swimming will compete in District Swimming on Tuesday 27rd February. There is also a District Cricket Gala Day on March 15 for interested Grade 6s to participate in (numbers permitting).

Music

This term in music, grade 6 students will be attempting to learn and play a number of different chords and simple chord progressions on a variety of instruments such as uke, guitar, xylophone, keyboard and marimba. We will then use this knowledge to create and play a version of a song from popular culture as a class ensemble. Students who have been learning an instrument outside of school are encouraged to bring it in (if possible) to use as part of the ensemble. Through this process we will be looking at elements of music such as structure, dynamics, tempo and texture.

Spanish/discovery term overview

This term students will expand their knowledge of the Spanish language by learning more about Spanish speaking countries. While using a variety of resources and doing engaging activities, they will be able to discover facts about the culture, traditions and special holidays of these countries. They will also make comparisons between this and life in Australia. To see the great work students do in class, you can check the Spanish website! <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>

- **Spanish/visual arts term overview**

In term one students in grade 6 are going to explore the work of pop artist Roy Lichestein to get inspiration for our pop art self-portraits, as we learn how to describe ourselves in Spanish. We're also going to start looking at the work of David Hockney to create an artwork in a similar style. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.