

Year 6 Teaching and Learning – Term 2

Making Huge Strokes into Keeping Water Safe!



Welcome to Term 2!

We cannot believe how quickly the first term has passed and the excitement of becoming leaders of the school a reality. We would like to congratulate all the students who nominated themselves for more formal roles. The level of maturity and eloquent articulation was first class, making the speeches enormously competitive! Of course we expect all grade 6 students to display leadership throughout the school and there will be many opportunities to contribute to the running and organisation at many functions and activities in the future.

The students have all participated in the new Government directive-: Swimming lessons and water safety programme. Over two weeks, we saw students become confident and stronger swimmers as well as being water aware and safe. Many students had their first experience, putting on life jackets and jumping safely into the water. We were very lucky with the weather and the teachers were impressed by the student's ability to look after their belongings during the quick turnaround period on returning back to school.

Camp! How exciting! We are off to Cave Hill in Ballarat for three wonderful days of exciting activities where students learn resilience, getting along and team cooperation. There will be hilarious performances, barn dancing as well as kitchen duties and cabin inspections. Stay tuned as there will be many notes and meetings scheduled early in term 2.

Our team of Sarah, Tessa, Mhairi and Nettie strive to ensure your child will be challenged, and able to work towards their best ability in a caring and enjoyable environment!

Please do not hesitate in contacting your child's teacher if the need arises as we are here to assist their welfare and educational needs.

Nettie, Sarah, Tess and Mhairi

Important dates /Upcoming events

Tuesday 25 th April	ANZAC DAY
Wednesday 26 th April	State Swimming
Monday 8 th May	WPS Cross Country trials
Wednesday 9 th	WPS Cross Country trials
Tuesday 23 rd May	District Cross Country
Wednesday 14 th June	Division Cross Country
Wednesday 21 st June	Region Cross Country
Monday 5 th Tuesday 6 th Wednesday 7 th June	Camp for grade 6 students at Cave Hill Creek
Thursday 8 th Curriculum Day	Students will not be required to attend this day.
Friday 9 th June	Sport as usual
Thursday 29 th June	Parent/ teacher interviews

What we are learning this term in the classroom

Literacy:

The Grade 6 Literacy program this term will continue to develop, challenge and extend students' skills and knowledge in all areas of literacy, namely reading, writing and speaking & listening.

Reading and Viewing: Teaching Reading at Level 6 places an emphasis on students using comprehension strategies to interpret and analyse information such as; Cause & Effect, Interpreting and Distinguishing between Fact and Opinion, Supporting Details and Word Meaning in Context from a variety of textual sources.

Writing: Students will continue to explore the writing genres of **persuasive** and **scientific reports** this term, as well as developing their understanding of **information reports**

Speaking and Listening: Students will be engaged in many opportunities to enhance their speaking and listening confidence. This is done on a regular basis through sharing of work, making welcome speeches at sporting events and assisting the preps in computers as mentors

Numeracy

Number and Algebra- Year 6 Numeracy program will focus predominantly on the curriculum areas of Number & Algebra and Measurement & Geometry this term.

Teaching and Learning in Number will focus on **fractions and decimals**, as well consolidating student's understanding of **place value** and **four operations**.

Measurement and Geometry space- In Measurement & Geometry, students will **measure angles** and explore the **properties of three-dimensional shapes**, as well as **transformations**.

As ever, our focus in Numeracy is about developing problem-solving capabilities within our students. Teachers will help students develop a range of strategies to solve authentic problems, to choose the appropriate strategy for a given situation, to justify their choice of strategy, and to consider whether the problem could be solved in another way.

Inquiry

What a Disaster- *The ways people and governments manage the environment and react to natural disasters (drought, flood, earthquake, cyclones and bushfire) can protect environmentally sensitive areas.*

ESSENTIAL QUESTION (based on a big idea)

How can we manage and react to the environment when natural disasters occur?

1. What is a natural disaster?
2. How do people contribute to natural disasters?
3. How do we prepare for natural disasters?
4. How do governments and people attempt to manage the effects of natural disasters?
5. How do governments and people protect environmentally sensitive areas?

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Physical Education			6Nettie, 6Sarah 6Tessa	6Mhairi	All grade 6 students (two sessions)Choir
Music	Choir		6Nettie, 6Mhairi	Tessa	Sarah
Science/Spanish	6Sarah		6Tessa, Mhairi	6Nettie	
Art/Spanish	6Nettie	6Mhairi	6Sarah 6Tessa		
Kitchen Garden	6Sarah, 6Nettie 6 Tessa			6Mhairi	
Performing Arts	Mhairi	Sarah, Nettie			Tessa

Physical Education

This term the Grade 6s will be working on their fitness levels by participating in many fun fitness activities. All students will be involved in cross country trials at school which is a 3km run on either Monday 8th May or Tuesday 9th May. The focus will be on achieving personal bests. The grade 6s will also be completing units on soccer and newcombe; learning new skills and consolidating ones already learnt. Towards the end of term we will start our athletics training in track events. The Grade 6s have all joined a winter sport team for interschool sport. The sports on offer were AFL, soccer, netball and newcombe. 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 ready for the match in the afternoon!

Music

The focus this term in music will be musical composition using Garageband on ipads. We will listen to some ambient electronic music, identify the main features and try to create our own versions. The aim is to create a body of music that can be used for relaxation and mindfulness in the classroom. We will also attempt to write some “jingles” as well as parodies, Weird Al Yankovic style. The goal is to try to create original songs in small groups that we can use technology to record, listen to and critique.

Spanish/Science

Students will expand their Spanish vocabulary by learning about light. They will complete hands on activities to explore how light forms shadows and can be absorbed, reflected and refracted. They will be able to recognise how light travels and explore how the path of light is affected by different materials. While exploring these concepts, students will develop their vocabulary on materials and colours. They will also learn how to use the correct verb form when writing and speaking in Spanish to share their ideas.

Spanish /Art

In term 2 students in grades 6 are going to create a collaborative artwork inspired by a traditional folk tale. The main medium we are going to use is block printing. Along the way, students are going to develop their Spanish vocabulary to be able to tell their story. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>.

Performing Arts/Spanish

The Year 6 students will have 8 sessions of Spanish/performing Arts this term to enhance their Spanish skills.