What’s Happening in the Classroom?

English:
- Reading sessions will involve different forms of narratives, poetry and a variety of informational texts, particularly linked to our Integrated Curriculum where possible. Children will be encouraged to further develop their level of comprehension of the material read through discussion groups and a range of text-based activity sessions. Regular at-home reading for enjoyment from a variety of texts continues to be strongly encouraged for all children. During the term children will be required to complete several Book Reports.
- Writing tasks regularly will involve personal writings in journals, summarising information listened to and/or read about into relevant paragraphs and developing a balanced structure for imaginative stories. Spelling and vocabulary activities will be based on personal spelling words taken from core spelling lists, topic words and journal writing. Strategies to be covered this term include common word endings, syllabification; prefixes & suffixes eg: ex-, -ful; antonyms, synonyms and over-used words. Punctuation and grammar conventions to be focussed on will include paragraphing and use of the apostrophe of possession.
- Specific listening and questioning skills for one-to-one, small group and larger audience situations will be a focus. Children will learn strategies for and will practise delivering impromptu speeches lasting approximately thirty seconds.
- Library sessions will be conducted each week with children having the opportunity to borrow - a library bag is essential.

Mathematics:
- Using each of the four processes will be a major focus. Particularly when linked to problem solving tasks, as well as activities that involve money.
- Using and ordering numbers to more than a million, as well as decimals and fractions.
- Using and drawing maps, with a focus on directions, grid references and scales.
- Measuring and comparing distances, size, time and weight with a variety of units.
- Graphing a variety of results to compare and analyse data.

Integrated Curriculum
The Unit of Inquiry ‘Australia’s Neighbourhood’ has a focus on Australia being a multi-cultural country that is isolated from other parts of the world. Students will develop an awareness of the cultures and features of neighbouring countries as well as countries that are further abroad. They will investigate the geographical location of regions of the world and develop travel itineraries for a chosen destination. A particular focus will be on countries within the Commonwealth and this will be linked in with a number of activities based on the Commonwealth Games.

Aspects of the Specialist Programs to note include:

Art
The focus this term is Collage. The students will create 2D and 3D works using a variety of materials. They will enhance their work with painting, drawing and printing. Topics will complement the classroom theme of the Commonwealth Games.

PE
Term 1 will begin with an introduction to Athletics skills (sprints, hurdles, throws and jumps) in a lead up to House Athletics in early Term 2. The focus on fitness will continue in Level 4, with each class starting with a fitness component and a stretching session at the start. Interschool Sport will be conducted on Friday mornings, with students participating in Softball, T-ball, Cricket, Volleysstars, Bat Tennis and Kickball.
Music
Year 5 and 6 children will be revising theory and aural perception concepts taught last year and will complete worksheets, giving them a chance to develop their skills further. We will be singing and playing Marimba ensembles. We will also perform simple drumming pieces to develop rhythm skills. Children in Level 4 will be invited to join the school’s performing groups. We will make use of our new music room by performing in small groups.

Indonesian/L.O.T.E.
The Grade 5 children will learn words for the different games and sport. They will translate simple sentences with the use of the dictionary. The Grade 6 children will write short sentences about their favourite sports person.

Learning Technologies:
The classroom computers will be utilised by children as part of their everyday classroom work. Additional Learning Technologies sessions will take place in the library. Word processing skills are developed, with a particular emphasis on correct keyboarding skills and the changing of fonts, font size and font style. Children will be working on Powerpoint Slideshows using Microsoft Powerpoint. Slide transitions, inserting maps and photographs will be some of the foci.

Tissues for Children’s Use in the Classroom:
To assist with a ready supply of tissues, all children are requested to please send along a box of tissues for use during the year. It will be helpful if these could be brought to school by Friday 18th February. Thanks to families who have already supplied tissues!

Parent Helpers:
If you are able to assist on a regular basis with our interschool sport activities – Fridays usually between 9am and 11am, please contact your child’s class teacher. (No specific umpiring or coaching skills are essential – just a willingness to help out!)

Visiting Your Child’s Classroom:
Visits for a quick browse in classrooms before or after school are always welcome, but please keep in mind that for safety reasons children are not to be inside unaccompanied. Also please note that our Information Evenings include a visit to individual classrooms and a discussion about the 2006 Camps.

Dates to Remember:

- **Friday 10th February** New Families Welcome Barbecue (6pm – 7:30pm)
- **Monday 13th February** Year 3-5 Swimming Program Commences
- **Monday 20th February** Information Evening
- **Friday 24th February** Year 3-5 Swimming Concludes
- **Monday 27th February** “Getting to Know You” Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Wednesday 1st March** District Swimming (All Level 4 students attend)
- **Friday 3rd March** Clean Up Australia Schools Day
- **Friday 10th March** End of Term 1 2:30pm dismissal

**CSF Level 4 Team Teachers:**
Narelle Smith, Sue Ward, Justin Butler and Tom Connelly