What’s Happening in the Classroom?

**English:**
- Reading sessions will involve different forms of narratives 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.
- Writing tasks regularly will involve personal writing, 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 and topic words. Strategies to be covered this term include common word endings; 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.
- Preparation for the student leadership process includes the delivery of and listening to speeches. 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.

**Mathematics:**
- Number using the four processes, including money and problem solving
- Place value: ordering larger numbers, decimals and fractions
- Graphing and tallying results and using the mean, median and mode
- Measurement and units of measure: perimeter, area, length, kilogram, metre
- Space: 2D and 3D shapes and their properties
- Space: map, directions and scale
- Angles: acute, obtuse, reflex, right
- Time: 24 hour clock

**Integrated Curriculum:**
- The Unit of Inquiry ‘Enviro-Rescue’ has a focus on the importance of conserving our resources and an awareness of the environmental implications and issues associated with conservation. Understandings to be developed include:
  - The Earth’s resources are finite
  - Future survival of the human race depends on sustainable use of natural resources
  - Individuals can make a difference, environmentally, every day

**Aspects of the Specialist Programs to note include:**

**Art**
This term the theme in the Art room is Threads and Textiles. The students will be developing their skill in sewing, fabric painting, beading and sequins, dyeing and cutting fabrics. The students will be designing their own calico bag with an environment theme.

**LOTE:**
The Grade 5’s will learn words for different sport and hobbies. The Grade 6’s will learn more about the culture and geographical factors of Indonesia.

**Physical Education:**
Term 1 will begin with a development of 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. Interschool Sport will be conducted on Friday mornings, with students participating in Softball, T-ball, Cricket, Volleystars, Bat Tennis and Kickball.
Music:
Year 5 and 6 will start the term with team building games. They will revise theory and aural perception concepts taught last year and will complete a worksheet to develop their skills further. We will compose a piece of music based on the pentatonic scale of C, for small ensembles to perform. This task will be completed and assessed for the portfolio. Children in the senior school will be encouraged to join the school’s performing groups.

Drama:
The Grade 6’s will experiment with ideas and explore feelings to proposed tasks. They are given opportunities to shape and structure their ideas, manipulating drama elements with a range of skills, techniques and processes. These include characterisation, improvisation, mime, storytelling, puppetry, reader’s theatre, self-devised dramas and short scripted plays. These students will concentrate on voice and movement skills to rehearse, refine and present drama to various audiences.

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 will be developed, with a particular emphasis on correct keyboarding skills and the changing of fonts, font size and font style. Children will be working with spreadsheets, learning simple formulas and how to enter information into tables. Students will be working on computer graphics tasks this term, which will further enhance their publishing skills. They will be introduced to photo and video editing software such as Window’s Movie Maker and Microsoft Photostory.

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!)

Dates to Remember:
- Monday 12th February: Year 3 – 5 Swimming commences
- Tuesday 13th February: Year 6 – Physics and Laser Show
- Wednesday 14th February: Year 6 – Monash Art Gallery
- Thursday 15th February: Year 5 – Monash Art Gallery
- Monday 19th February: Parent Information Evening
- Friday 23rd February: Year 3 – 5 Swimming concludes
- Monday 26th February: Getting to Know You Interviews
- Wednesday 28th February: District Swimming Carnival
- Friday 2nd March: Clean Up Australia Day
- Thursday 8th March: School Photos
- Monday 12th March: Labour Day – No School
- Monday 19th March: Year 3 – 6 Brave Heart Incursion
- Thursday 22nd March: Easter Event

Andrew Farmer, Sue Ward, Narelle Smith, Melissa McLeod, Justin Butler
CSF Level 4 Team