What’s Happening in the Classroom?

**English:**
Throughout the year the students will be placed in flexible differentiated working groups to suit their abilities to further enhance individual growth.

- 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 ‘It’s Electrifying’ has a focus on how electricity works. Students will investigate circuits and simple electrical devices. Understandings to be developed include:
  - The history of electrical development.
  - Energy can come in many forms.
  - Energy can change from one form to another.
  - Electrical energy can be changed into sound, light or movement.
  - The use of Electrical energy is developing with new technology and the supply / demand from consumers

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. They will also be creating a decorated picture frame using quilling techniques. Topics will compliment the classroom Integrated Units of Study where relevant.

**LOTE:**

**Indonesian:**
The Grade 6’s will do revision of various topics like numbers, colours, family, places, animals, verbs, etc, by doing written exercises and oral activities.

**Mandarin:**
The Grade 5’s and 6’s will learn about the geographical factors of China and also be introduced to some important facts of the Chinese culture. They will be taught a few simple greeting phrases and numbers 1-10 in Mandarin.

**Physical Education:**
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, Volleystars, Bat Tennis, Kickball and Basketball. Students will be asked to reflect, evaluate and improve their own performance and the performance of others.

**Music:**
Year 5 and 6 students will be revising theory and aural perception concepts taught last year and will complete written activities using small white boards, 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. Guitar will be the main instrumental focus for the year. Children in Level 4 will be invited to join the school’s performing groups.

**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 15th 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:**
- **Friday 8th February:** New Families BBQ
- **Monday 11th February:** Year 3-5 Swimming begins
- **Monday 18th February:** VELS Parent Information Evening
- **Tuesday 19th February:** CSIRO Incursion
- **Monday 25th February:** Getting To Know You Interviews
- **Wednesday 27th February:** District Swimming
- **Friday 29th February:** Clean Up Australia Day
- **Monday 10th March:** Labour Day – No School
- **Tuesday 11th March:** Mandarin Activity Day
- **Thursday 20th March:** Last day Term 1

Justin Butler, Sue Ward, Melissa McLeod and Kevin Oakey

*CSF Level 4 Team*