

In Term 1 the Year 5/6 students will be encouraged to develop their independence, self-esteem, co-operative work skills and creativity. Establishing links with teachers and peers and positive attitudes towards learning will be nurtured. Many games and activities are actioned to allow the students to get to know each other and promote a close, co-operative class/area environment. Camp Rumbug is an exciting time for the students and the less formal environment allows students and staff to become familiar with each other and develop relationships.

We encourage a home-school partnership which contributes to high level of student achievement. Parent-Teacher-Student Meetings occurring in term one enables important conversations and connections to form.

Term 1 also sees the students being exposed to a variety of experiences – Leadership positions. Student Representative Council, Green Team and Wellbeing representatives are elected, meeting prep buddies, summer interschool sport and intra class sports/games, Senior Choir commences and Life Education Van. Whilst the Term One curriculum focus below has been presented for planning purposes, the content will often be interwoven with other topics featured throughout the year.

MATHEMATICS

The focus this term will be on the following:

- Working with whole numbers in the millions and decimals to thousandths.
(expanding whole numbers and decimals: connecting decimal representation to the metric system).
- Addition, subtraction using decimals.
- Counting and renaming fractions.
- Time: Comparing and converting 12 hour and 24 hour time systems.
- Interpreting and using timetables.
- Describing routes using landmarks and directional language.
- Applying efficient mental strategies involving all four operations with whole numbers.
- NAPLAN preparation.

ENGLISH

READING

The focus for this term will be on identifying the purpose, structure and language features of narratives and persuasive texts. Poetry will be explored and students will be required to read and analyse poems in order to appreciate and understand the use of imagery. A further focus will be to develop awareness of language structure such as similes and metaphors. Throughout the term, students will be supported in preparing for upcoming NAPLAN testing.

WRITING

Through narratives and persuasive texts and poetry, students will follow the model of planning, drafting, proofreading, editing and publishing to develop their writing skills. Conventions of Language will focus on nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, quotation marks and synonyms. Throughout the term, students will be supported in preparing for upcoming NAPLAN testing.

SPELLING

Phonological, visual, morphemic and etymological strategies (The Four Spelling Knowledges) are used to develop an understanding of the structure of words. Students' spelling will focus on vocabulary related to the inquiry concept (Science) and our reading and writing focus on narrative and persuasive. Throughout the term, students will be supported in preparing for upcoming NAPLAN testing.

SPEAKING & LISTENING

Development of the student's speaking & listening skills is on-going through classroom interaction, cooperative group work and discussions. Year 5/6 provides many opportunities to speak publicly in a range of forums and all students are encouraged to participate in presenting to a variety of audiences.

The students will be presenting one formal oral presentation: All About Me in Term 1. Oral presentation protocol and criteria will be introduced to students.

INQUIRY BASED LEARNING

The students are involved in a Start-up Program at the beginning of the term. This is a platform for re-visiting the School Values, establishing classroom rules/protocols and reflecting on Thinking Tools and their appropriate use.

Science is the inquiry focus. This is a student-centred learning approach. The students experience 'Inquiry Tasters' where they gather information on the biological, chemical and physical elements of science. Using this information and experiences they then decide the path of their inquiry.

The Life Education Van visits Term 1. The unit is called 'Think Twice' and the focus is alcohol.

Thanks

Ruth Reidy, Kerryn May, Scott Eastwood

Julianne Haldon and Tony Moore

February 2015