

Year 6, Term 3 Letter, 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 3. We are very excited about what we have planned for the term.

English

Our literacy program, has been planned to assist the students develop knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking and writing.

We will explore a variety of texts types and associated language features. These features include complex sentences, unfamiliar technical vocabulary and figurative language. This term we will focus on recount writing and information reports. The recount writing unit will look at texture structure and language features that are required to write an historical recount. The students will be required to write a full recount based on an historical event studied in class. They will also develop the skills and method of proof reading and editing. Then we will learn about information report writing that focus on the purpose, structure and language features.

We will also focus on further developing the reading strategies of summarising and inferring to improve reading comprehension. Students have the opportunity to choose their own books for "Read to Self," where they can explore a range of genres and text types.

Every day at Macgregor the whole school starts the day by reading for fifteen minutes. This is a time for all students to practice the technical skills of reading such as particular reading comprehension strategies. Teachers will be conferencing with individual students during this time, working on ways to advance their reading skills. Please ensure your child is at school by 9:00 so that they do not miss this valuable reading instruction and practice time.

Students in years 3-6 should be reading chapter books every night.

All children should record their reading practices in their Macgregor Home Reading Log. Please take a few moments each day to talk to your child about what they are reading and how they are making connections to other texts or their own lives.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra - this term we will focus on decimal fractions and how we can use the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) with decimals. We will also develop an understanding about how decimals fractions and percentages are connected.

Measurement and Geometry - In this unit about measurement and geometry, students will solve problems involving the comparison of lengths and areas using appropriate units of measurement. Students will learn how to interpret and use timetables, such as, planning a trip involving one or more modes of transport. Students will also learn about constructing prisms and pyramids.

PE and Health

Students will focus on extending their skills in a number of fundamental motor and movement skills. This will be done by reinforcing established skills, such as co-ordination, balance and gross motor skills, in a variety of games, dance and performance. We will also have a focus on demonstrating sportsmanship and developing team work.

W@M Wednesdays

This term every class on a Wednesday after recess will be participating in explicit social emotional learning (SEL) lessons at the same time in what will be known as W@M Wednesdays. This is not an isolated lesson and W@M principles and the BRICK values will continue to be integrated into all aspects of our culture and learning. The first 5 weeks of term 3 we will have a whole school focus on antibullying workshops. Students will have the opportunity to voice any concerns they have in a safe space.

Science

In Science, students will look at Earthquakes and Explorers, with a particular focus on the Asia/Pacific region. They will study the sudden geological changes and how extreme weather events can effect the Earth's surface. The unit will; explore the cause and effects of earthquakes, elaborate on student's knowledge of scientific views about earthquakes and tectonic plates, evaluate how earthquakes are recorded and investigated.

History

During history the focus will be on the early years of migration. The key ideas of the inquiry will be about the prominent figures involved in Australia's Federation, Aboriginal Rights, Women's Democracy and Cultural Groups. Additionally, we will inquire about some of the key events that led to Australia's Federation?

Housekeeping

Fruit break – each day, at approximately 10:00am, students will take a run outside followed by time to eat fruit. This is an opportunity for the students to take a break and gives them time to refocus ready for the next session. Students should bring fresh fruit, which is easy for them to manage and eat in approximately ten minutes. Other food needs to be eaten at either recess or lunch.

ChromeBooks.

The students have the opportunity to use their Chromebooks in a number of different lessons. They are also able to access work at home by connecting to the classrooms that have be set up for them. Chromebooks are to be used appropriately for school related work and are not for leisure activities.

Finally, if you would like to meet with us to further discuss your child's learning, please don't hesitate to make an appointment. Alternatively we can be contacted via email.

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We are looking forward to an exciting term full of lots of learning for the students.

Kind regards,

Sarah Meagher, Tina Nguyen, Robert Venables
7 August 2018