

**Principal: Jennifer Hall**

## Term Two Overview, 2019 Year 6

Dear Families

Welcome to an exciting Term 2. Below is an outline of our curriculum for this term. We are continuing to consolidate skills around literacy and numeracy and transfer them throughout our units of Inquiry. We encourage you as always to share your valuable knowledge about your child's individual interests, strengths and needs. We look forward to continuing a productive partnership with you. We are continuing to nurture an engaging and friendly learning culture through our Macgregor W@M values. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you in your child's education.

### 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 be learning about the text structure and language features used in informational texts. Students will create a range of texts including simple reports, explanations and newspaper articles. Students will be explicitly taught writing skills which will be practised and then applied in different situations. These lessons will encompass grammar, spelling, paragraph construction and editing skills.

Students will listen to, read, view, interpret and evaluate spoken, written and multimodal texts in which the primary purpose is aesthetic, as well as texts designed to inform and persuade.

Every day at Macgregor the whole school starts the day by reading for twenty minutes. This is a time for all students to practise 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 am so that they do not miss this valuable reading instruction and practice time.

We recommend students read 10 to 20 minutes every night. 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.

This term, students will be planning, writing and delivering a speech for Rostrum ACT Primary Schools Speaking Competition.

### Mathematics

Student will continue to review efficient mental and written strategies to solve problems involving all four operations with whole numbers. They will investigate everyday situations that use positive and negative numbers. We will explore the use of brackets and order of operations to write number sentences. Students will describe probabilities using fractions, decimals and percentages. We will conduct chance experiments with both small and large numbers of trials using appropriate digital technologies.

## **W@M Wednesdays**

This term on a Wednesday after recess, we will participate in explicit social emotional learning (SEL) lessons known as W@M Wednesdays. These are not isolated lessons, and W@M principles and the BRICK values continue to be integrated into all aspects of our culture and learning. Positive rewards are ways we can recognise individuals and the learning behaviours that we want to see in our classrooms. They are compatible with the theory of Positive Behaviour for Learning when they are used to teach the desired behaviour that we want to see. The W@M token is our agreed upon method of rewarding students who have shown the positive behaviours at Macgregor Primary School and will be recorded as part of the classroom W@M points tallies for the week. Students work towards earning W@M badges when they reach milestones for our four W@M Values - Respect, Responsible, Safe, Learners.

Year 6 students will be completing a peer mediation program which aims to strengthen communication and conflict resolution strategies. As students complete the program, they may apply to become Playground Mediators.

## **Inquiry Unit**

The Year 6 Inquiry Unit will provide learning opportunities about the importance of puppets in Asian Culture. By the end of the unit Year 6, students will be able to explain its importance by focusing on three key inquiry questions: what is the significance of puppetry in Asian Cultures? How is puppetry used in traditional and religious rituals? Why is the art of puppetry important in today's Asian Cultures?

## **The Arts**

The Arts enables children to express their creativity and individuality in many ways. In Visual Arts students will be encouraged to explore ideas using a variety of art mediums. Year 6 students will attend a specialist visual arts and music lesson each week with Fabio Fabbo for 45min. They will make and respond to both visual art pieces and music individually and in small groups with their peers. In art students will be making images connecting to a variety of combined images relating to the theme of 'metamorphosis', into their original, major art pieces. In music students will experiment with the use of their voice, ukuleles and keyboards to develop their aural skills by exploring and reproducing sounds, pitch and rhythm patterns. To expand upon these concepts, students will explore a variety of instruments and how they can be used to compose a simple musical piece.

## **ICT**

Students have access to Chromebooks this year. They will engage in a range of learning technologies. We also encourage the children to use a whole school online reading program called 'Reading Eggs'. All classrooms at Macgregor have Interactive Whiteboards to enhance lessons and student understanding, along with consolidating ICT skills.

## **Spanish Language and Culture**

This term we will be interacting with using appropriate pronunciation of Spanish-specific sounds. We will be focusing on pronouns and the agreement of nouns and adjectives. Our involvement with the Uruguayan Embassy and our Sister School program will involve the Spanish readathon, El Día de los libros and the Futsal Day.

## **Library**

Year 6 students will continue to have a 45-minute library session every Monday. Norma John is our specialist teacher librarian for 2019. In these sessions, the children are introduced to a variety of different books, authors and genres, and we provide time for each child to become a regular borrower. Please assist your child in remembering to bring their library bag every week. The library is also open for your child to visit at lunch times.

## **PE/Fundamental Motor Skills**

Every week for 45 minutes as part of specialist rotations, the children will be participating in a fundamental movement skills program with Bethany Taylor. These movement skills are the 'building blocks' for most movement patterns in sport. This forms one part of the school's physical education program. Students receive explicit instruction and the opportunity to practice through a range of games and activities. This term we will be focusing on the skills involved in Athletics, mainly shot put and discus so that the students understand the correct technique to use and when it comes to the carnival they will know what to do. Fitness is also an important aspect of PE, the students will participate in the beep test, the scores will be recorded to show the students' progress throughout the year. They will also be putting their previously learned skills of throwing and catching into learning how to play Basketball. To help your child please ensure they wear appropriate footwear such as sports shoes, have a drink bottle and wear a hat every day.

## **Friendly Reminders;**

- The weather is very variable in Canberra, please make sure your child has appropriate clothing, footwear, a sunsmart hat, and enough food and water for a whole day of learning
- Please label your child's possessions (hats, jumpers, stationery, lunch box, drink bottle etc.) so that we can return items we find as quickly as possible
- Learning starts at 9.00am. If your child is late arriving to school, please ensure that they are signed in at the front office. Also, just a friendly reminder that in the event of your child being absent, please send in a written note to your child's teacher, or send a notification through the Macgregor Primary School App.
- When the children arrive at school, we ask that they congregate in the senior COLA and the immediate surrounding areas.
- We welcome assistance from parents and carers. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like to volunteer. We arrange for all our volunteers to complete a form at the front office.
- Please see the school calendar which is attached to the school newsletter for important dates. We also provide information on Facebook, See Saw and the school's website
- During our morning session we have a short fruit/vegetable break. Please send a small piece/container of fresh fruit or vegetables for your child to eat at this time
- Please remember we are an allergy aware school. Please do not pack nuts or nut products for your child
- We are encouraging the children to leave their bags at their assigned outdoor area until the bell and we seek your support to remind your child. Teachers are preparing lessons and attending meetings before 9am.

Kind Regards

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