

Principal: Belinda Andrews

Term One Overview, 2022

Year 6

Dear Families,

Welcome to an exciting Term 1. Below is an outline of our curriculum for this term. We have had a fabulous start to the learning year, and we are very impressed with the way all students have settled into their final year at Macgregor Primary School! As parents you have valuable knowledge of your child's individual interests, strengths and needs. We look forward to establishing a productive partnership with you. We are currently nurturing an engaging and friendly learning culture. We have made class agreements, discussed expectations, and begun term one routines. We look forward to a fantastic year with you all.

English

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

Writing and Spelling

With an initial focus on how to use specific details to support a point of view, students will create detailed texts elaborating on key ideas for a range of purposes and audiences. Students will be explicitly taught writing skills which will be practised and then applied in different situations. These lessons will encompass grammar, spelling, sentence construction and editing skills. Students will explore a variety of spelling patterns and word origins, including some Latin and Greek roots, base words, prefixes, suffixes, letter patterns and spelling generalisations to spell new words.

Reading

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. Students in years 3-6 should be reading 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.

Speaking and Listening

Students will participate in discussions, develop, and support arguments, share and evaluate a variety of information, experiences and opinions.

Viewing

Students compare media texts that represent ideas and events in different ways, explaining the effects of the different approaches and analysing these sites as information sources for research. Students will further develop their comprehension strategies to interpret and analyse information and ideas, comparing content from a variety of digital and media texts.

Mathematics

Our focus for this term will be solving problems involving all four operations with whole numbers. We will explore the use of integers in everyday contexts and connect fractions, decimals and percentages as different representations of the same number. Students will explore prime, composite, square and triangular numbers. Each day students will experience explicit teaching of mental computation strategies and the key areas of number and algebra, measurement and geometry and statistics and probability.

HASS (History and Social Sciences)

This term we will be studying Civics and Citizenship, in particular students will present ideas, findings, viewpoints, and conclusions in a range of communication forms that incorporate source materials and civics and citizenship terms. We use an inquiry approach, asking students to consider the following key questions:

What is the role and importance of people in establishing civic rights and responsibilities and who are some examples of civic leader role models in our world?

What are the roles and responsibilities of Australia's three levels of government?

What are the obligations citizens may have beyond their own national borders as active and informed global citizens?

Science

This term we will be conducting science experiments to explore the key scientific concepts of geological changes, observable changes to materials and whether these can be reversed and chemical interactions. Students will follow procedures to develop investigable questions and design investigations into simple cause-and-effect relationships. They will also collect, organise and interpret their data, identifying where improvements to their methods or research could be improved.

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 tokens when they reach milestones for our four W@M Values - Respect, Responsible, Safe, Learners.

Health

In our health lessons we will be covering two main topics: *Personal Identities* and *Cyber Safety*. *Personal Identities* explores how our identities are influenced by people and places as well as the impact of the media on the development of our personal beliefs, attitudes, decisions, and behaviors. *Cyber Safety* examines online reputations and how they can impact our lives as well as exploring safe and unsafe online behaviors.

Technologies: Design and Technology

This term we will be using a range of online sites to create stories and images that communicate meaning to the viewer. Students will explore drawings, diagrams, and storyboards, using a range of techniques such as labelling and annotating sequenced sketches and diagrams to give meaning and direction. They will work individually and collaboratively to identify and sequence steps needed for a design task, negotiating, and developing plans to complete design tasks, and adjusting plans when necessary.

ICT

Students have access to Chromebooks this year. They will engage in a range of learning technologies. In year 6 we will be creating a ICT Terms of Agreement with students which will need to be signed by parents as part of our responsible use of technologies in the classroom. Please keep an eye out for this agreement which will be sent home soon for your signature. All classrooms at Macgregor have Interactive Whiteboards to enhance lessons and student understanding, along with consolidating ICT skills.

The Arts

During term one, students will create artworks using a variety of different artistic techniques and materials. They will investigate how artists use the different elements of visual arts, with line, shape, form, colour, texture and space to explore and make their artwork. Over the term, students will be encouraged to self-reflect on their creations. They will explain how ideas are communicated in artworks and will describe characteristics of artworks from different social, historical and cultural contexts that influence their art making.

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Friendly Reminders

- **Stationary:** with current COVID restrictions, we are avoiding using shared stationary (pens, scissors, textas etc.). Students in year six can bring their own pencil cases to school – we will provide the stationary needed for their pencil cases. For students who do not have their own pencil cases, we will provide a stationary pack for their individual use
- **Chromebooks:** in year six every student is assigned their own chrome book for learning, and we have headphones for students to use during learning time. If your child has their own headphones and/or mouse they would like to use, they can bring these items in to the classroom
- **Mobile phones:** if your child has a mobile phone, they will be collected in the morning by their class teacher and stored in our year six locked storeroom. We will return all mobile phones to students at the end of each day – ***please remind your child that they cannot keep their mobiles in their bags and to please be ready to hand them in each morning***
- **Eating:** students in year six are encouraged to eat whenever they are hungry throughout the day rather than at set eating times – please ensure your child has enough food to consume throughout the school day
- **Hats:** as the year sixes are the leaders of the school we rely on them to all model sun safe behaviors to our younger students – please ensure your child has a hat to wear every day. If they do not have a hat, they will be asked to stay under the shade during break times and will be unable to participate in our physical education sessions
- **Seesaw:** we use seesaw to communicate with families as well as to share our learning with you. Please join our seesaw classroom when you receive the joining details as it is our primary way of communicating all important messages to families
- **Learning:** 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
- **School Calendar:** 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
- **Allergies:** please remember we are an allergy aware school. Please do not pack nuts or nut products for your child

Kind Regards,

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