



Year 5 Term 1 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Year 5! It is great to see that our children have settled into their new school routines with ease. This letter is a brief outline of what your child will be learning this term. Please continue to support your child's learning at home by ensuring that they read every night. This can include reading independently, listening to your child read, reading together or even reading to your child. We would also like you to remind them to practise their basic number skills (like times tables) for 10 minutes each day to help build their foundations for mathematical understanding. Your child's teacher can help with resources with this if you need them. With the weather being very warm in the middle of the day, please make sure that all of your child's belongings are very clearly labelled as the children remove extra items of clothing as the day warms up or when they are inside. As a SunSmart school, we require that all children wear a hat that shades their face, ears and neck whenever they are outside for breaks or physical education. While we have a few spares at this early point in the year, children shouldn't rely on these. Please support your child to be sun safe by making sure they have a suitable hat and that they bring it to school every day.

Mathematics

This term, we will be assessing all of the students to ascertain the level of their mathematical understanding. We will be reviewing key concepts like place/ value, operations, relationships and representation of data. We will also focus on estimation, interpreting questions and checking, to support our students doing NAPLAN later this term.



Instruction will be a combination of explicit teaching, open-ended tasks, (both small group and individual), and project-based learning.

Please support your child to practise their basic number skills at home (for 10 -15 minutes on at least 5 days per week).

English

The children will continue to be involved in a wide variety of specific activities to develop their skills in reading and writing, viewing and oral language.

Students will:

- participate in independent reading most days.
- take part in reading groups based on a Book Club model.
- write texts across a number of genres, starting with narratives and expositions and then moving to information texts in conjunction with our Science units.
- have regular lessons in handwriting, both modelled and independent.
- receive explicit instruction in spelling and language conventions.

Inquiry Unit

This term we will be completing a science inquiry unit in biology answering the big question, "What does it mean to adapt?" Our guiding questions are:

- How do structural and behavioural features of living things enable them to survive in their habitat?
- What happens if conditions change? How do human activities impact species survival?
- What happens to those that cannot adapt to the conditions?
- How have humans impacted/adapted Australia's environment over time, for example for food and fibre production?

Physical Education & Health

Students will be involved in regular Physical Education sessions on most days of the week. These sessions will combine explicit teaching of fundamental motor skills, together with co-operative games and skills related to particular sports.

There will be a strong focus on fair play and being good sports with an emphasis on more advanced concepts of tactics and strategy. We are also hoping to incorporate some Dance this term.

Year 5 Band

Our band selection process has almost completed and we expect offers of places to be sent out very soon. If you receive an offer, please talk to your child seriously about the commitment they are making. They will need to be supported to practise regularly, and to bring their instruments on band days.

Our band days for this year are Monday and Wednesday.



W@M—Wellbeing at Macgregor

Our W@M lessons this term will focus on:

Ways to display kindness to others and problem solving during a game.

- playing cooperative games and understanding how to be a 'good sport'
- relationships with peers
- exploring the theme of belonging
- developing leadership skills
- staying safe with technology.

Specialist Subjects

We are lucky to have three specialist teachers working with Year 5 this term. Maddy Mielens will work with our students in the area of STEM; David Conley will be teaching Spanish; and Sophie Norman will be our Art teacher.

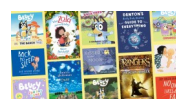
All of our classes will work with all three of these specialists across the year. Our specialist sessions will take place on Wednesday mornings in Term One.

Library

Our children will continue to have access to the school library. Our assigned day is Thursday and all students needing to borrow or return books will attend the library that morning.

Students can also access the Library at break times for borrowing or quiet reading.

Please note also that our in-class libraries in Year 5 are quite extensive and most children will be able to find a suitable book to read in independent reading time or to take home.



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