



Important Dates:

17th February: SDSSA Summer Round Robin at Jells Park

2nd March: Twilight Sports 5:30— 7pm

9th March: Whole School Communication Night Guest Speaker: Michael Ymer

13th March: Labour Day

22nd March: Yr 6s receive Transition Packs for Secondary Schools

24th March: SDSSA Athletics Carnival

27th March: End of Term Award Assembly 9:00am

29th March: PB Barbeque

31st March: Last Day Term 1 Finish at 2:30pm

Advance Notice:

Naplan (Year 5 only): 9-11th May

Canberra Camp: 26-30th June

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2017 school year! We hope you had a wonderful break over summer. We look forward to a fabulous year of learning for all Year 5 and 6 students at Mount Waverley Heights and forming strong partnerships with all families in educating your children.

This Parent Information Newsletter is designed to provide you with information on the programs and events in the Year 5/6 area. We have also included some handy hints on how you can help your child at home with their education.

We are extremely fortunate to have Sharon Corkhill, Tracy Morganella and Marika Rac working alongside us as Classroom Assistants.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Year 5/6 area, please come and see your child's teacher.

Regards

Sandra Douglas 5/6D and Lindsay Hannah 5/6H

The Curriculum

Students are taught curriculum based on the Victorian Curriculum. Students in Year 5 & 6 are typically taught at Level 5 and 6 and include the following Learning Areas and Capabilities.



Playing card games to learn about decimals



Independent reading with 'good fit' books

Learning Areas

- English
- Mathematics
- The Humanities
- Civics and Citizenship
- Economics & Business
- Geography
- History
- Science
- Technologies

Capabilities

- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Ethical
- Intercultural
- Personal & Social

Please note that although students participate in activities in all of these areas they are not necessarily assessed in all of them in midyear reports.

We know that students learn in different ways and under different rates. In all subjects, individual differences will be catered for. These could include working in ability groups, extension activities, individual conferencing and extra assistance.

Be Responsible

Be Respectful

Be Inclusive

English

Students engage in learning in the areas of Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening. Students undertake a 2 hour literacy block each day based on the REACH Literacy Framework. Literacy activities include guided reading and writing sessions, shared reading and writing activities, handwriting, grammar, comprehension and oral language activities. As part of our 5/6 Reading program we will be explicitly teaching reading strategies (e.g. *drawing inferences from the text to predict, form conclusions and make critical judgements based on evidence in the text*) in a range of contexts. Through the 5/6 Writing program students are explicitly taught the 6 traits of Writing (Voice, Organization, Ideas, Conventions, Word Choice and Sentence Fluency). Speaking and Listening opportunities may include reports, speeches, assembly & classroom presentations, debates, interviews and project presentations.

Mathematics

Students undertake learning in Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Students participate in a one hour numeracy block per day with a dedicated time for Mental Maths. **By Years 5 & 6 it is expected that children are proficient with their multiplication, division, addition and subtraction tables.** All students are urged to practise their tables regularly.

In Term 1 mathematics will be heavily linked to our geography unit of study. Students will learn about Place Value, map reading using coordinates, data collection and representation, 12 and 24 hour time, decimals and fractions and probability and chance.

Wellbeing

During the first few weeks of term the 5/6s are working together to create an effective learning community where the students are supported to take greater responsibility for their learning and interaction within the learning environment. MWHPS Expectations, behaviours and routines are explicitly taught and reinforced throughout the term. Our initial teaching focus has been the expected behaviours in the Learning Spaces (e.g. Classroom, Library, ICT Room). This year we will also be focusing on Habits of Mind, starting with the 'Persisting' and 'Thinking and communicating with clarity and precision' habits.

Homework

All students in Years 5/6 are expected to complete their designated homework. It will consist of 30 min reading per night (this will be entered into your child's diary and initialed by an adult. The home reading can be a personal book or there are take home books in each class that students may borrow at any time. Additionally there will be maths and spelling homework to be completed. This will be handed out on Monday and returned to school on Friday.

Reminders

- A box of tissues from each family would be gratefully accepted. If this is not possible could you please ensure your child comes to school with enough to satisfy their personal needs.
- Your child's diary contains necessary information about activities coming up as well as items needed. The school diary should be at school every day and signed on a Monday and Thursday. Even if there is nothing written on those dates could you please sign to confirm that the diary is being checked at home. Diaries will be collected on a Thursday.



Working on touch typing



Practising for the Round Robin

