

# Launching Place Primary School

## Grade 5/6 Parent Planner

Term 1 2017



### **Welcome to Term 1 2017!**

Term 1 is a busy term in Level 4. Students will be involved in a variety of activities throughout this term including the prep-buddy BBQ and whole school swimming carnival.

### **Behaviour**

Term 1 will provide grade 5 and 6 students with opportunities to develop their leadership skills through a variety of activities. We would expect that all students continue to meet the school behaviour expectations and demonstrate exemplary behaviour and act as role models to the younger students at Launching Place. To support this we will continue to focus on our three key ideas of 'Be a Learner', 'Be Respectful' and 'Be Safe' within all areas of the school.

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### **ENGLISH**

#### Reading

Students will work towards individual goals using the CAFÉ strategies and framework. They will be provided with the opportunity to join in with Literature Circles, Guided Reading, Teacher Conferences and Peer Conferences. This will allow them to further develop their skills in this area. Additionally all grades will be reading and analysing a class novel. Through these sessions we will explore themes, study story structure and language features, analyse characters and find evidence within the text to support our claims.

We would encourage all children to read for enjoyment and expect that home reading occurs on a regular basis. Please visit your local library, if you haven't already done so. With your library login you are now able to download books electronically direct to your device. Please visit [www.erl.vic.gov.au](http://www.erl.vic.gov.au) for more information.

#### Writing

This term we will explore writing imaginative texts, focusing on writing narratives and short fiction stories. Students will learn to create pieces of writing using the Writing Process of Pre-Writing, Drafting, Revising, Editing, and Publishing. They will explore the crafting techniques of fictional and imaginative writing and consider how to use the 6+1 Traits of Writing to improve their writing.

#### Speaking and Listening

Speaking and Listening is a vital component of the English program. In order to improve their speaking and listening skills, your child will be encouraged to participate in different activities which may include:

- Circle time – Many Circle Time activities require students to take turns, listen to their peers and think on the spot.
- Reflection activities – Activities that develop oral language and presenting skills will be included in the regular reflection activities. These activities will include partner, group and whole class sharing of thoughts and ideas.
- Speaking at assembly – Students will be provided with the opportunity to participate in assembly presentations including sport's reports, school activities and other reports.

- Public speaking – Students will be provided with different opportunities to practice their public speaking skills through excursions and school events such as open nights and whole school events.

## **MATHEMATICS**

The Mathematics program at Launching Place Primary School is designed to cater for each child's individual needs. To ensure all students experience success, maths classes may take several different approaches. These include group work with focussed teaching circles, hands-on, real-life activities, computers for skill building and problem solving, and open-ended, rich learning tasks.

Throughout the term, children will be pretested and then separated into differentiated learning groups. They will then work at their level to target the next step in their learning. This provides students with an opportunity to experience a variety of teaching styles and approaches as they work with different teachers across the topics covered this term.

This term we will revise and build on understandings such as:

### Number and Algebra

- Addition
- Subtraction
- Multiplication
- Division
- Place Value

### Measurement and Geometry

- Area and Perimeter
- Symmetry
- Language of Lines
- 2D and 3D Shape

### Statistics & Probability

- Probability
- Graphing

### Automatic Recall

Mental Maths sessions as well as Blitzmasters will allow your child to improve their speed and accuracy when recalling number facts. Blitzmaster levels will be carried over from last year and progress will continue to be monitored.

## **INTEGRATED STUDIES – NATURAL DISASTERS**

Our Term 1 integrated unit, Natural Disasters, will provide students with opportunities to learn about bushfires, droughts, floods, avalanches, hurricanes, tornadoes, cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes. Students will complete activities relating to each type of disaster and develop their understanding of the causes, prevention and safety factors of each.

## **THE ARTS**

This term The Arts will be held on Tuesdays for 5/6F, 5.6M and 5/6B and Wednesdays for 5/6S. Students will receive an hour and half lesson each week that will combine elements of visual arts and performing arts, including music, drama and dance. In visual arts, students will explore the concept of symmetry and perspective to create a caricature of themselves with life size feet. In drama, they will work in teams and use iPads to create a film clip for a song of their choice. Their film clip must be accompanied by a detailed plan and a story map, with all members of the group spending time on both sides of the camera. These film clips will be presented at our 3rd Annual Film Festival, which will take place in Education Week in Term 2. To coincide with the grade 5/6 Natural Disasters unit, the students will be completing a mini-project that includes an art piece, a drama element and a piece of music created with a variety of instruments. Students will also enjoy completing improvisation activities, mimes, and scenarios to build their drama skills.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Phys Ed for these children will be held on Mondays (5/6M on Thursdays). They will also be involved in a sports program on Friday afternoons. Hats are also a must. It would be great to see everyone wearing appropriate footwear on their PE days. For most games we play, whenever a shoe comes off the child will be given out! Children are not permitted to take their shoes off when outside. I have had to dodge a few too many "shoe missiles" over the past couple of years. School shirts and shorts or school tracksuits are ideal.

First Term program will focus on the following:

1. Minor Games to start the year (2 weeks), which will focus on collaboration and generate enthusiasm for the program.
2. The main focus of the term will be Athletics, concentrating on developing skills for each of the events held at our Athletics Sports in late Term 1.
3. Children will participate in an Athletics Award Program for each individual child that rewards individual improvement, not necessarily outstanding achievements as this often leaves those with less skill uninterested. Records will be kept of each child's performance and then compared with the previous year's results to measure improvement.

Don't forget the School Swimming Carnival on Friday 10th March at Healesville Pool. The Athletics Carnival is on Friday 24th March at Wesburn Park (Venue TBC). Kayaking and interschool swimming (late February) is also on offer for those that are keen.

## **ASIAN STUDIES**

In 2017, Asian Studies will aim to build the intercultural understandings of the students. The focus will be to enable students to learn to value their own culture, languages and beliefs, and those of others. We will learn about diverse Asian cultures in ways that recognise and respect similarities and differences.

This term Asian Studies will focus on the broader aspects of 'culture' and the world. We will begin by sharing our knowledge of Australia and the world. We will explore how and why the way we live is similar and different to cultures around the world, with a focus on Asian countries.

Later in the term, to coincide with the integrated studies topic 'Natural Disasters', we will focus lessons on exploring various Natural Disasters in Asian Countries.

## **PUBERTY TALK**

On Friday the 31st of March the Grade 6 students will be involved in a 'Teen Talk' session. This session will allow students to learn about the emotional and physical changes that occur during puberty. The presenter, Sharon Witt, is a well-known author, teacher and motivational speaker who presents the information at an age appropriate level. For more information about Sharon or if you are interested in purchasing a 'Teen Talk' book please visit <http://www.sharonwitt.com.au>. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this program please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

**HOMEWORK** – Homework this term will be in the form of contracts. A copy of the required contract will be sent home in the first week back. Homework is due on Friday.

**HOME READING** – Students are expected to read at home and get their diary signed by a parent to indicate their home reading. A minimum of 3 signatures is required to indicate reading of 20 minutes or longer per week. This will be checked every Friday.

**TISSUES** – As we come into our cooler seasons we would appreciate it if each of our families could please supply a box of tissues for their child's classroom.

**SNACK ATTACK** – Please provide a fresh fruit or vegetable snack for your child to consume during snack attack time.

**WATER** – In order to learn at their best kids need to be hydrated. Students are encouraged to have a water bottle on their tables at all times.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb – 'Getting to Know You' interviews

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb – Prep/Buddy/New Families BBQ

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Whole School Swimming Carnival

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Labour Day Public Holiday

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Grade 6 Puberty Talk

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – End of Term 1, 2:30pm finish.

Thankyou,

Jess Freeman, Brent Smith, Lara Mackie and Kathy Boyd.