



## **Welcome to Term 2 2017!**

Term 2 is a busy term in Level 4. Students will be involved in a variety of activities this term including high school transition days, the 3 – 6 cross country, 5/6 Aussie sports expo, the advanced presentation skills public speaking course, and the 5/6 film festival.

## **Behaviour**

Term 2 will provide grade 5/6 students opportunities to developing their leadership skills through a variety of activities. We expect that all students continue to meet the school behaviour expectations, 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 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 persuasive writing, focusing on persuasive pieces such as essays, speeches, opinions, and advertisements. Students will learn to create persuasive pieces of writing using the Writing Process (Pre-Writing, Drafting, Revising, Editing, and Publishing). They will explore the crafting techniques of persuasive 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

- Financial Maths
- Inverse Operations
- Fractions
- Maths Vocabulary
- Problem Solving

### Measurement and Geometry

- Area and Perimeter
- Rotational Symmetry
- Time
- Mapping & Direction
- Mass, Weight and Volume

### Statistics & Probability

- Tallying with symbols
- Reading graphs and data

### Automatic Recall

Mental Maths sessions as well as Blitzmaster will allow your child to improve their speed and accuracy when recalling number facts.

Blitzmaster levels will be carried over from last term and progress will continue to be monitored.

## **INTEGRATED STUDIES – Animal Adaptations**

Our Term 2 integrated unit, Animal Adaptations, will provide students with opportunities to explore some of the structural features and adaptations of desert plants and animals, and compare them with plants and animals that live in other environments. Through hands-on activities, students will investigate how the structural features of desert plants and animals help them to survive in their own natural environment.

## **THE ARTS**

This term The Arts will be held on Tuesdays for 5/6F, 5/6M and 5/6B and Wednesdays for 5/6S. Throughout the term, the current Arts room will be removed and replaced with a new and improved room. In the interim, The Arts will be held in the OSHC side of the GP room and Monday assemblies will take place in the BER building. We are looking forward to moving into our new room when it's ready!

Students will continue to 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 continue to work on their pictures of their shoes. They will use elements of photography to assist their art work with a focus on 'real life' drawing. In drama, they will complete many improvisation games, such as '90 Second Alphabet' and 'Sit, stand and bend' to encourage students to think and react quickly. They will participate in the whole class fractured Fairy Tale Drama Circle and they will create their own short plays for the class. In music, students will use the instruments to create and record a soundscape. They will look at music of different genres and they will explore the differences between each sound. Students will also be learning new songs to perform at assembly, Grandparent's day and Open Night.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Phys Ed for these children will be held on Mondays. (5/6M on Thursday) They will also be involved in a sports program on Friday afternoons.

It would be great to see everyone wearing appropriate footwear on their PE days. School shirts and shorts or school tracksuits are ideal.

Second Term program will focus on the following:

1. The main focus at the beginning of the term will be Athletics, concentrating on developing skills for the cross country event in mid May.
2. For the major part of the term we will be working on Ball Handling Skills and applying these skills in modified games of the major sports.

The Aussie Sports Day is on Friday 2nd June.

The annual Archery Program will be held in June.

Our Interschool Sports Program will also commence this term.

## **ASIAN STUDIES**

This term in Asian Studies we will continue to broaden our knowledge and understanding of the cultures of various countries across Asia. Through all lessons we will aim to provide activities and discussions that promote respect across cultures and celebrate similarities and differences. We will begin the term by focusing on China and some of the significant moments from China's ancient history. We have looked at the Great Wall of China and we are currently learning about the Terracotta Warriors. This term will also see students take greater ownership over their learning in Asian Studies, with a focus on finding information on various countries and areas of interest to the students.

**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.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> May – RSL Anzac Day Ceremony (Grade 6 only)

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May – NAPLAN

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May – 3- 6 Cross Country

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Grandparent's Day

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Open Night

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Grade 5/6 Film Festival

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – 5/6 Aussie Sports Expo

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Curriculum Day

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Parent/Teacher Interviews

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – End of Term 2, 2:30pm dismissal

Thankyou,

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