

Dates for your Diary:

4th August Interschool Sport Our Lady's (Away)

11th August Interschool Sport Eltham College (Away)

16th August EDPSSA Athletics – Doncaster

16th – 18th August – Scholastic Book Fair - Library

18th August – Disco
- Interschool Sport Eltham East (Home)

25th August Interschool Sport Eltham PS (Home)

30th August Whole School Excursion – IMAX & Melbourne Museum

1st Sept – Father's Day Stall
– Interschool Sport – St Thomas (Away)

4th Sept Grade 5/6 Hooptime

8th Sept – Production Rehearsal

11th Sept – Whole School Production

20th Sept – Footy Day & Special Lunch

22nd Sept – Whole School Colour Run
End of Term 3 – early finish – 2.30pm

TERM 4 -

9th October Curriculum Day (no students)

10th October Term 4 First Day for students

13th Dec – Grade 6 Graduation

Hello everyone!

Welcome to Term 3. It's hard to believe that we are already half way through 2017! Once again, we have a very full term ahead with many great learning experiences and wonderful opportunities for all students in grade 5/6.

TERM 2 WRAP UP:

The second half of Term 2 was very busy with our grade 5/6s participating in interschool sport, Asia project presentations, the Amazing Race city excursion, open afternoon during Education Week and three-way conferences.

Asia Projects - We were both very impressed with the quality and knowledge gained which was evident in the students' home learning each week and the final presentation. Bravo to all students!! Thanks to the parents for their support.

The Amazing Race City excursion – this was a fabulous day exploring our wonderful city and what lies in and around the city lanes and streets. It was wonderful to see the students collaborating and cooperating in their groups. Thanks again to our terrific parent helpers.



Three-Way Conferences – the students have identified their learning goals and personal goals for semester 2. A copy has been sent home and a copy is on each students desk for referral and reminders.

TERM 3

A quick overview of the extracurricular activities on offer for the grade 5/6s this term are: Interschool Sport, whole school excursion, an author/illustrator visit, the Resilience Project, grade 5/6 Hooptime, athletics days, and on the whole school production with many speaking and singing roles for the grade 6s.

We began Term 3 revisiting the school rules, classroom expectations and developing guidelines for our bookwork. Through these avenues the students are beginning to build a sense of pride in their work, classroom and school. We are all an important piece in what makes RPS ... RPS!

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP:

Our grade 6 leaders continue to be great role models for Research Primary through sport, assemblies, production, Research Redeems and soon to be launched 'The RAKC' – Random Acts of Kindness Challenge. The student leaders manage Research Redeems where students are rewarded in the yard for making good choices. These cards can then be redeemed on Fridays for prizes or saved to have lunch with Principal and free dress.

Adopt-a-Spot: Last term each class adopted a spot in the school grounds to change or beautify. The students have loved being involved in the planning, submitting suggestions to Mrs Minarelli and then actually making these changes in the yard. Some parents came along to help with weeding, pruning, mulching, digging holes and general tidy up. It has certainly made a difference and the students continue to maintain these areas.



WRITING: In Writing, our main focus is information reports which is linked closely to our Integrated topic – ‘What lies Beneath?’ The students will continue to explore various ways to improve their writing through using the VCOP principles For example: using connectives and paragraph openers specific to factual writing. Additionally, the grade 5/6s will gain further experience in notetaking when researching marine life and their adaptations to survive in the various habitats in the ocean. A minor focus will be poetry enabling students to explore what lies beneath the ocean in a creative way. They will choose vocabulary to express feeling and opinion.

SPELLING/GRAMMAR: We continue to use the Soundwaves Spelling Program and Oxford Grammar to target specific ability levels through explicitly teaching and exploring key sounds and grammatical features to enhance students word knowledge and understanding.

READING: Reading groups have continued this term with our CARS and STARS program. The reading strategies being studied certainly support our topic ‘What lies beneath’ where the students are required to find facts and details, compare and contrast, make predictions and draw conclusions about adaptations of deep sea creatures.

MATHEMATICS:

In **Numeracy Zones** this term, we have continued with exploring addition and subtraction. Mid-term our focus in zones will shift to multiplication and division. Therefore it is vital that all students try to learn their times tables. This term we have been very fortunate to be able to offer additional assistance to a group of students provided by Mr Kent. These students are working on developing mental computation and building Maths confidence.

In addition to Numeracy Zones, 5/6s are investigating time, area and perimeter. It would be great if parents could practice at home telling the time in both digital and analogue formats, 24 hour time and lapsed time between events.

CREATIVE & CRITICAL THINKING: This term our unit of study ‘What Lies Beneath’ will explore the structural and behavioural adaptations of deep sea creatures. Throughout the unit the students will become familiar with the zones of the ocean and the physical conditions at these layers. The students will examine what adaptations sea creatures have made to survive in their environment. The ocean and the sealife are indeed amazing and the students are very keen to investigate the weird and wonderful sea creatures.

HOME LEARNING: Home Learning began last week. This term, the grade 5/6 students’ Home Learning will provide some choice in the areas of spelling, English and Biological Sciences. Please ensure your child labels each entry and hand their Home Learning in on Thursdays. Weekly spelling tests are conducted on Thursdays, too. It has been fantastic to see that many 5/6 students read over the holidays. Please remind your child to record their reading in their diary.

WHOLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION: A group of Grade 6s have been very busy writing the script for this year’s production, ‘Get Back Up Again’ under the careful guidance of Mrs Minarelli. From all accounts this year’s production promises to be very entertaining. So lock in Monday, 11th September for the performance to witness your wonderful children on display. More details regarding costumes and ticketing will come later.

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT: We are very fortunate to be taking part in the Resilience Project. The Grade 5/6s met Martin from the Resilience Project last week and the session was delivered with high energy through stories about being truly grateful for what we have, displaying kindness and courage to be true to yourself. Over the next two terms, we will be further exploring Martin’s key messages of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness (G.E.M.). Martin was really encouraging us all to ask ourselves “What went well today?” We are hoping the skills learnt through the Resilience Project will be with all our students for life.



INTERSCHOOL SPORT for Term 3 has now started – the fixture is in the Dates for your Diary (see front). The students are playing in one of the following sports: Bat Tennis, Basketball, Rounders, Softball/Teeball and Volleyball.

If you are able to come along and cheer Research, please do so, the kids love to see you there.



That’s a quick round up of term 3. If you have any questions, please give us a call or drop in.

Regards

Jocelyn Watts & Krista Kepitis