



July 2024

5/6W Term 3 Newsletter

**Respect  
Ambition  
Community  
Confidence**

Dear Parents,

We have started Semester 2 with celebrating the Olympic Games. The children are super enthusiastic about Potato Olympics. They have done a stellar job of decorating their humble potato and changing it into an Olympian. This week children have participated in the first three events – Shot Put, Gymnastics and Diving.

### Dates Term 3

- 18<sup>th</sup> July** – Assembly
- 26<sup>th</sup> July** – ISS starts
- 30<sup>th</sup> July** – District Athletics
- 1<sup>st</sup> August** – Assembly
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> August** – 3-6 Camp
- 22<sup>nd</sup> August** – Assembly & Book Week Dressup
- 29<sup>th</sup> August** – Book Week Incurion
- 30<sup>th</sup> August** – Curriculum Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> September** – Climate Action for Kids – School Leaders
- 5<sup>th</sup> September** - Assembly
- 12<sup>th</sup> September** – Parent Teacher Interviews (altered school day)
- 17<sup>th</sup> September** – Whole School Melbourne Zoo Excursion
- 19<sup>th</sup> September** - Assembly
- 20<sup>th</sup> September** – Term 3 ends 2.30pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> October** – Term 4 begins.

As of Week 4, Ms Watts will be back in the classroom, and I will return to teaching Science and Library. It has been a pleasure to work with the students of 5/6W. They should feel very proud of their diligence, positive mindset and mature attitude they have displayed towards their schoolwork.

Have a read below to see what we have coming up in Term 3.

#### Writing

This term we will be focusing on building student's knowledge of the text structure and language features of Explanation reports, and later revisit Persuasive writing. Students have chosen a topic of interest they would like to investigate and are using a mind map to organise their research, before writing their Explanation report that outlines how something happens or why something works.

Weekly spelling and grammar focuses are designed to develop student's vocabulary and punctuation skills. These sessions help to strengthen your child's ability to clearly communicate their thoughts and ideas in written form.

#### Reading

The reading strategies we will be exploring this term are Predicting, Making Connections, Analysing, Critiquing, Synthesising, Inferring and Summarising. These strategies help students to think deeply about the characters, setting and events in our class novel (Holes by Louis Sachar - which we are almost finished) and their own 'Good Fit' book they have selected to read.

Home Reading is a requirement of all Year 5/6 students. They are to record the number of nights read in their diary/reading logs (record the book title & pages), rather than the number of books they read. We would appreciate your assistance in encouraging your child to read regularly at home and have book conversations to develop their comprehension of the text they are reading.

#### Mathematics

We began the term practising how to add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators. Students have also been placed in one of the following counties: Australia, UK, USA, Japan, Germany and Italy to compete in our RPS Potato Olympics. Each event (gymnastics, running, diving, weightlifting, shotput and javelin) requires students to work with different metric units of measurement, calculate averages (i.e. mean, median, mode and range), graphing results and converting scores into fractions, decimals and percentages.

Throughout the remainder of Term 3 we will focus on Multiplication and Division, Area, Perimeter, Length and Statistics. Students explore the curriculum through differentiated learning tasks to build their number fluency and problems solving skills. Children also have access to Mathletics on-line, at school and home, to further support our Numeracy program.

## Integrated Studies

At the beginning of this term, we will be focusing on the Paris Olympic Games. We will have a look at inspirational athletes who have triumphed over challenges by demonstrating determination and resilience to achieve their goals.

Students will learn about Team Australia by viewing profiles of athletes. We will explore the many significant events that take place during an Olympic Games and how this sporting tournament promotes cultural diversity.

Learning tasks include:

- Creating an exciting pitch to win a ticket to Paris 2024.
- Designing a travel brochure highlighting how a significant landmark will be showcased during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

## Wellbeing

The purpose of wellbeing sessions is to address and discuss any issues that may arise in class or in the yard. Through creating an environment of open communication, we aim to improve the wellbeing and mental health of our students with a focus on emotions, thoughts, and self-esteem. In these sessions, students will explore strategies that will help them in challenging situations and continue developing resilience. For example: exploring help-seeking / problem solving strategies, gratitude and mindfulness.

## Home Learning

Home Learning is a part of the classroom program and allows students to develop positive work habits and to manage their time effectively. Home Learning will be handed out on Friday and due back on the following Wednesday. The aim of home learning is for students to take *Personal Responsibility* for their learning at home. Parents are asked to encourage their child to establish a Home Learning routine.

## Specialists Classes

In Science this term, students will be conducting fun experiments to observe the different ways solids, liquids and gases behave. During Week 5 (12-16 August), we will be celebrating National Science Week. This year's school theme is *Species Survival – More Than Just Sustainability*.

During library sessions this term, we will be exploring the magic of reading stories and their amazing power to transport you into another world in the lead up to 'Children's Book Week'. There will be a whole school dress-up day on Thursday 22nd August and a live performance of 'Maybe A Miracle' by the theatrical group Perform Education on Thursday 29th August.

In Art this term students will finish off their collaborative mosaics from Term 2. The focus will then switch to completing an Artwork on the Gang-Gang Cockatoo, using their chosen art medium.

In PE this term, the Year 5/6 students will be working on extending a range of fundamental motor skills through learning about and playing volleyball, netball, hockey and cricket. They will also focus on encouraging others, fair play and sportsmanship.

## Home – School Communication with Classroom Teachers

I am more than happy to discuss the learning progress of your child with you or any other issues or concerns. I can be emailed through **Compass** online. Please try to avoid catching us after 8.50am in the morning as we are busy preparing for the day. I am unavailable after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to staff training.

### With the School or Office

The following are the school's contact details:

1570 Main Road Research 3095

Tel: 9437 1917

[research.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:research.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

Thank you for taking the time to read the 5/6W newsletter. If you have any questions, please reach out to me or you can contact the school directly.

Yours sincerely,  
Maryanne Skeen