



Year 1 & 2 S News

Term 4
17th October, 2024

What's On

Week 1 Mini Start Up

Assembly: Thursday
October 10th

Week 2

Week 3

Swimming Year 1 & 2

Assembly: Thursday Oct
24th

Week 4

Week 5

4th Nov: Curriculum Day

Melbourne Cup

Assembly: Thursday
November 7th

Week 6

Remembrance Day

Week 7

Assembly: Thursday
November 21st

Week 8

27th Nov: Keyboard
Concert

29th Nov Japanese
Drumming Incursion

Week 9

Assembly: Thursday
December 5th

Week 10:

Tues 10th Dec: Step Up
Day

Wed 11th Dec: Taskworks
Incursion

Fri 13th Dec: Whole School
Planning

Week 11

Grade Parties

Fri 20th Dec: Carols/ Songs

Assembly : Friday 20th (last
day) afternoon

Term 4 Ends 1:30 pm

RESPECT, COMMUNITY, CONFIDENCE, AMBITION

Welcome to our Term 4 newsletter! We hope that you have all had a restful and relaxing holiday. Last term was filled with learning, fun and memorable experiences. Here are some of the highlights:

Term 3 Highlights:

Whole School Excursion to the Melbourne Zoo: Our visit to the Melbourne Zoo was a roaring success! The students had the chance to be Wildlife Explorers exploring the various habitats and getting an up-close look at the animals. It was a fantastic day of learning about wildlife and conservation.

Balance Gym Fun: Our 5 sessions at Balance Gym were a hit! The students worked hard on their strength, coordination and teamwork. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow with each session. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who have helped walk us to and from the venue.

Science Projects: Our budding scientists were very busy creating and designing their science projects. The creativity and enthusiasm was incredible.

Footy Day: Footy Day was a blast! Students came dressed in their favourite team colours. The mini oval was awash in colour as the footy parade took place. The highlight was a visit from Carlton footy player Marc Pittonet who came along to answer questions from our students.

Parent Student Teacher Conferences: Thank you to all the parents and students who attended the Parent Student Teacher Conferences. It was a great opportunity to celebrate the students' learning and discuss their progress. Your support and involvement are greatly appreciated.



Here is a glimpse of Term 4:

Swimming: The intensive swimming program for the Year 1 & 2 students will begin next week. The program aims to promote water safety, develop the student's confidence in water and equip them with essential swimming skills.

End of Year Incursion: To celebrate all the hard work and fabulous learning the Year 1/2's have achieved throughout the year we have planned an end of year incursion with the people at Taskworks. They provide a range of engaging hands-on activities that aim to promote creativity, problem solving and coordination skills.

Reading: Using reading strategies in the classroom is essential for fostering students' comprehension and engagement with texts. Effective strategies such as activating prior knowledge and setting a purpose for reading, can significantly enhance the students understanding and retention of the material. The Year 1/2 classes will continue to foster a love of reading through our ongoing Reading Conferences. The reading conference offers the student the opportunity to share their thoughts about what they have read, set goals for future reading and receive timely feedback from the teacher. They are an effective and individualized way to focus on an aspect of reading that will benefit each student and monitor their progress.

Writing: During the term the students will be encouraged to use their imagination and creativity to express themselves by developing their storytelling abilities. They will explore the structure of a narrative, construct stories with characters, settings and plots, include descriptive phrases, adverbs and using the 'show don't tell' approach to painting a picture in the reader's mind. Additionally, the use of narrative sentence starters and picture prompts will help to develop their writing skills in a fun and structured way.

Maths: Learning about division using concrete materials, such as counters and blocks, helps students grasp the concept by physically grouping and sharing items, making abstract ideas more tangible. This term the students will develop an understanding that fractions are in use in our everyday lives, like dividing a pizza or measuring ingredients for a recipe. Hands on and practical activities help show the students the practical applications of maths. The students will also be exploring 3D shapes in the environment, such as cubes, spheres, and cylinders in playground equipment or buildings, which helps to enhance spatial awareness and geometry skills. These diverse learning activities not only make education more engaging but also build a strong foundation for future academic success.

Integrated Studies: In this mini unit, '**Safety – How Do We Keep Safe?**' The students will learn about personal safety, traffic safety, water safety and online safety'. During the unit the students will discuss the dangers of being on the road, near water and being safe when cooking in the kitchen. That many injuries/ accidents can be avoided by choosing appropriate behaviours to ensure safety in these situations. We will look at the purpose of rules for different places and how they keep us safe.

The unit called '**Celebrations – How Do You Celebrate?**' will help us to understand how celebrations are special events or activities that people enjoy together to mark important occasions. That there are many types of celebrations, including birthdays, holidays, cultural festivals and national events. We will look at how and why people celebrate, the significance of the celebrations, the special symbols and decorations that create a festive atmosphere and how celebrations help people come together and create shared memories. We will explore the difference between celebration and commemoration.

Wellbeing & Respectful Relations: This term the students will be engaging in wellbeing activities and conversation starters that describe the kinds of actions that generate a sense of pride or accomplishment. We will be strength detectives encouraging students to think about their personal strengths and the sort of experiences that can lead someone to feel proud of themselves. We will also explore positive coping strategies asking them to identify times when they need to use calming or cheering strategies.

Remember to check in with the regular 'Wellbeing for Learning' updates on Compass.

Science: In Science & Technology this term, we will begin with learning about Forces and Motion by exploring how different strengths of pushes and pulls affect the movement of objects. We will also be building our knowledge about Space by taking a closer look at why we have seasonal changes. Mrs Skeen

Art: In Term 4 Art, the 1/2 students will continue to explore the Art Elements of colour, line and shape through various artists and different artworks. In the second half of the term, they will create Christmas themed artwork. Ms Kepitis

Library: This term during Library sessions students will be given the choice to be part of a Reader's Theatre play. Short scripts will be made available for students to read in front of their classmates. Just a friendly reminder to return any overdue library books. If library books are lost, please contact the school. Mrs Skeen

Physical Education: In PE, Year 1/2 students will focus on developing key motor skills such as running, dodging, jumping, and ball bouncing. As part of the program, they will take part in four coach-led basketball sessions to help improve their skills while staying active and having fun. PE sessions will also encourage teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play. Mr O'Halloran

Helpful Hints at Home: Here are some fun and engaging mindfulness activities to try at home:

Progressive Muscle Relaxation: Guide your child through tensing and then relaxing different muscle groups. This helps them become more aware of their body and reduces stress.

Square Breathing: Teach your child to breathe in four counts, hold for four counts, breath out for four counts, breath in again and hold again for four counts. This simple exercise can help calm their mind.

Mindful Snack: Encourage your child to eat a snack slowly, paying attention to the taste, texture and smell. This practice helps them stay present and enjoy their food more.

Mindful Movement: Incorporate yoga or simple stretching exercise. These activities can help children connect with their bodies and improve their focus.

Using Affirmations: Help your child create positive affirmations like, 'I am kind', 'I am helpful'. Repeating these can boost their self-esteem and resilience.

Animal Breathing: Turn deep breathing into a fun activity by mimicking animal breaths, like lion's breath

(roaring out) or bunny breaths (quick sniffs).

Five Senses Breathing: Ask your child to identify things they can see, hear, smell, taste and touch. This exercise helps ground them in the present moment.

"When you're curious, you find lots of interesting things to do."

Walt Disney

We look forward to another term of exciting activities and adventures. Thank you for your continued support!

Regards, The Year 1 & 2 Team