

Respect  
Ambition  
Community  
Confidence



October 2024

5/6W Term 4 Newsletter

### Dates Term 4

- 16<sup>th</sup> Oct Abdi Aden Author – 5/6
- 18<sup>th</sup> Oct Yr 6 Graduation Photo
- 24<sup>th</sup> Oct Assembly
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nov Curriculum Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> Nov Melbourne Cup
- 7<sup>th</sup> Nov Assembly
- 21<sup>st</sup> Nov Assembly
- 27<sup>th</sup> Nov Keyboard Concert
- 29<sup>th</sup> Nov Japanese Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dec Assembly
- 10<sup>th</sup> Dec Year 7 Orientation Day  
Step Up day (2025 yrs1-6)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dec Yr 6 Graduation
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dec Curriculum Day
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec Yr 6 Silent Disco
- 18<sup>th</sup> Dec Funfields (Yr 5 & 6)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Dec **Final Assembly**  
**Farewell Yr 6 & Carols**  
Term 4 Ends 1.30pm  
(Merry Xmas & Happy New Year)

**Term 4** - It is hard to believe that it is Term 4, where has the year gone! For our year 6's this is their last term at primary school before they begin their exciting journey into secondary school. This term is packed with engaging learning experiences, special events and fantastic opportunities. Some highlights include a Guest Speaker -Abdi Aden, Yr 5's Captain's speeches, Yr 6 Graduation and the much-anticipated Funfields trip.

### Term 3

Well Term 3 didn't quite go to plan for me and I would like to thank Mrs Maryanne Skeen for all her hard work in maintaining consistency in 5/6W in my absence. The students were engaged in many wonderful learning experiences. The term began with the highly anticipated Potato Olympics and I believe the events the potatoes competed in were engaging and entertaining. Our annual 3 – 6 Camp at Phillip Island was a huge success, and I heard on the grapevine that a few students accidentally fell in the water! Another highlight was the whole school excursion to Melbourne Zoo focusing on animal adaptations. Finally, the students were involved in designing 'Tiny Houses' which involved creating 2D plans, constructing a 3D building and miniature furniture. We certainly have some budding builders and interior designers!

*The following staff will continue working closely with your child, providing many new, stimulating, and challenging experiences in our specialist areas. Krista Kepitis (Art & Japanese), Maryanne Skeen (Science and Technology & Library) and Mark O'Halloran (PE).*



### Writing

This term promises to be exciting as we expand our writing skills in various ways. Our primary focus will be on narrative and informative writing, where students will explore techniques to enhance their work. They'll practice creating engaging sizzling starts, using connectives, building tension in narratives and incorporating subject-specific vocabulary in their informative texts, particularly related to the geography of Australia and beyond.

In addition, the students will apply their writing skills, such as using persuasive language, clear structure, and engaging storytelling, as they create their captains (year 5) or graduation speeches (year 6).

### Reading

In Reading, Year 5/6 students will continue independent reading to strengthen their stamina. They will focus on developing skills such as summarising, analysing, critiquing, and inferring across a variety of genres. Through discussions and our class novel, *Shadow*, students will delve deeper into the themes and messages of texts, analyse key characters, their traits and emotions that influence the story. They will make inferences about the plot, and connect their reading to their own experiences, other texts, and the world around them.

### Mathematics

In Maths this term, our focus will be revising Multiplication and Division skills, and exploring Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. Through these topics, the students will continue to use the four processes drawing on their knowledge of quick number facts and times tables. (Please continue to encourage your child to learn their times tables.)

In addition, the 5/6s will also collect and interpret data, explore the statistics and probability of events occurring.

## Integrated Studies

The unit, **'Our Place Australia – A Connected World,'** is designed to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of the diverse characteristics of Australia and its neighbouring countries. Students will use mapping and geographical tools to locate Australia's neighbours on a map and interpret information through scales, legends, and grid references like latitude and longitude. They will identify country borders, major cities, key landmarks, and the landforms that shape each nation.

By exploring both natural features, such as landforms and rivers, and human aspects like people, culture, and landmarks, students will investigate the interconnectedness between people and the environment. They will learn how climate and landforms shape the way people live in various regions, influencing communities and daily life. Additionally, students will understand how human actions affect the environment and how decisions can impact the way spaces are used and organised.

To enrich their understanding of geographical diversity and regional connections, students will compare Australia with a neighbouring country of their choice, identifying both similarities and differences, while imagining what life might be like in those countries.

**YEAR 6 GRADUATION 2024**  
**THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**6:00 for a 6:30pm start**

## Home Learning

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. Home Learning began in week 1 this term.

## Year 5 Captain's Speeches – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

Year 5 Captain's speeches delivered from 9:30 – 11:00

Parents welcome to come to watch.

## Specialists Classes

Your child will be participating in the following specialist classes this year:

**Art** - In Term 4 Art, Year 5/6W will focus on Japanese art, particularly art by the famous artist Yayoi Kusama. In the second half of the term, they will create some Christmas themed artwork. They will continue to explore the Art Element of texture throughout the term.

**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. Children will also be given the opportunity to write their own plays. Just a friendly reminder to return any overdue library books. If library books are lost, please contact the school.

**Physical Education** – In PE this term, our Year 5/6 students will develop key motor skills such as running, dodging, and ball bouncing, while also focusing on sportsmanship and fair play. They will participate in four coach-led basketball sessions, promoting teamwork and skill-building. Additionally, students will bring their bikes to school for a Bike Ed session (Dec 3), where they will learn about bike safety and maintenance.

**Science** – In Science & Technology this term, we will be studying Physical Science to learn about how electricity is generated and building electrical circuits. This topic will be followed by exploring our Solar System and investigating the orbits of the planets around the sun.

## Home – School Communication With Classroom Teachers

Feel free to reach out at any time to discuss your child's learning progress, as well as any questions, concerns, or successes you'd like to share throughout the year. I can be emailed through Compass online. Please try to avoid catching me after 8.50am in the morning as I am busy preparing for the day. Also, 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)

## Breaking News!

The topic for this year's 'Soil Week Australia's School Competition' was 'Healthy Soil, Healthy Food'. In their most creative way, students were required to explain the importance of healthy soil and its connection to our food.

Students also explored how soil can be used as a carbon sink to provide a sustainable solution to combating climate change during their Science & Tech class.

**Exciting news – hot off the press** – Research Primary were awarded first prize in this Nationwide competition for two of our video entries from grade 6 students. Congratulations to Linda, Liepa & Noor and Baxter, Ollie, Finn and Harry D. Also, thanks to Mrs Skeen for supporting the students. Great job everyone!

*That's a quick overview of term 4. It's a busy but fun one! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.*

*Regards  
Jocelyn Watts*

*"It always seems impossible until it's done." —Nelson Mandela*