



EARLY YEARS

U6 NEWSLETTER Term 3

Email: alexandra.stojanovic327@schools.sa.edu.au

Introduction

Welcome back to U6 for term 3! I hope you all enjoyed the term 2 holidays and you're ready for another busy and fun-filled term. This term we will continue to engage in the connected curriculum and explore a new focus with our big question 'why does the universe work?' Our journey towards implementing the Walker Learning Approach will continue and it has been fantastic to see how the students are transferring their knowledge and skills into their own personal projects during their investigation time. This term we will continue to focus on our learning intentions to ensure students have a clear understanding of the learning that will be targeted throughout the week. You can find a copy of the learning intentions and focus student roster on the communication board at the front of the classroom.

Maths

In Maths this term we will continue to focus on consolidating and extending our counting skills and knowledge of place value. Students will be introduced to Financial Maths with our topic on money, where they will look at the features of Australian currency and order small collections of coins and notes according to their value. They will recognise and describe fractions as halves or quarters and represent division as groupings of equal sets. In addition, we will also be focusing on shape and time. Students will investigate 2D and 3D shapes, looking at their features and exploring the ideas of symmetry and tessellation. They will be focusing on telling time to the half hour and use a calendar to identify particular dates and to determine the number of days in each month. Students will also be investigating the relationship between the months of the year and the seasons.

English

Students will continue to be engaged in a literacy block where reading (shared and guided), writing, phonics, spelling and comprehension is explicitly taught and practised. During our literacy block this term students will have the opportunity to use 'Tocomail' on the iPads or laptops as part of several writing activities. Tocomail is a free child-friendly email account that can only be accessed via usernames and passwords that I have created. Each literacy group will have an email account to share, which is monitored by myself. This tool is a great way to promote 21st century learning and where students are not only practising their writing skills, but also their typing skills.

Our focus for writing this term will continue to be on writing recounts and narratives as well as students being introduced to the structure and features of procedural text. In spelling, students will continue to develop their knowledge of diagraphs and word families. This term students will be bringing home 10 spelling words to practise as of week 2. We will be focusing on 'ou', 'ar', 'ay', 'ea', 'igh', 'ow', 'ew' and 'or' words. Please note there will be no spelling homework or spelling test in week 10 due to Sports Day.

Students will continue to be supported to develop independent reading skills, improve their understanding and comprehension of what they are reading and also to develop their confidence as a reader. To assist with developing comprehension skills and making connections to reading,

students will be encouraged to respond to a variety of texts with a particular focus on retelling and implied meaning. Thank you so much for all the wonderful reading that is happening at home this year. It has been great to see the number of students using Bug Club. Just a reminder that student logins can be found in each student's communication book.

Our focus for grammar this term will be on proof reading and editing skills, in particularly punctuation. In addition, students will be engaged in another author study this term, which will be based on Australian author Mem Fox.

Science

In Science this term we will be focusing on Earth and Space Sciences, in particularly looking at observational changes in the landscape and sky in our unit 'Up, Down and All Around'. Students will have the opportunity to explore natural, man-made and managed features that undergo change overtime. Through outdoor observations and photographic records, students will investigate daily, weekly and seasonal changes in their local environment and explore how this impacts the way the universe works.

HASS – Humanities and Social Sciences

In HASS this term students will be focusing on the concept of place. Through a variety of different activities students will identify and describe natural, managed and constructed features of places and locate them on maps. Students will examine how places have changed, as well as looking at ways of caring for the environment.

Specialist Areas

PE (with Terry Ahern on Wednesdays)

Japanese (with Belinda Brenen on Wednesdays & Fridays)

Performing Arts (With Tiffany McCallum on Thursdays)

Positive Education (with Desy Pantelos on Fridays)

Morning routines

Well done to everyone for settling in efficiently ready to start term 3 and remembering to:

1. Come in and put your bag on your bag hook.
2. Take out your reader folder and drink bottle.
3. Put your drink bottle in one of the 'Drink Bottle' baskets.
4. Put any books you would like return to the library in the 'Return' basket.
5. Put your reader folder on the bookshelf next to Miss S' desk.
6. If you have a note for Miss S put your communication book in the basket on the bookshelf next to Miss S' desk.
7. Put your lunch order in the lunch order basket at the front of the classroom.
8. Quietly find a spot to read with a parent or a partner.

Community Reading will continue each morning between 8:40 and 8:55am. It has been great to see parents inviting other students to come and read when their parent is not available.

Library Day / Computers

U6 will continue to visit the library on Wednesday afternoons for a browse and borrow. Just a reminder that when your child has finished reading their borrowed books they can place it in our 'Book Returns' basket in the classroom, so that they may be able to borrow again.

During ICT lessons this term students will continue to use the laptops to practise their keyboard and typing skills through a variety of games as well as accessing Mathletics (via the internet) to encourage further development of their mathematical skills. In addition, students will also be introduced to features in Microsoft Word and use this program as a way of publishing their work.

Reminders

As part of our SunSmart Policy students will be required to wear their school hats as of week 7.

Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held in week 2 on the 1st and the 2nd of August.

Students will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge this term. This will be recorded as a whole class.

There will be a Pupil Free Day in week 5 on the 21st of August.

Sports Day will be held on the last day of term on Friday the 29th of September. Students have been placed in their team colours, which can be found in your child's communication book.

We hope to see you there cheering us on!

Investigation will continue this term on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We would appreciate any junk material (eg. boxes, paper towel rolls, bottle caps etc) you may have lying around at home that you wish to donate.