

YEAR 6

TERM 4 NEWSLETTER

LITERACY

READING AND VIEWING

This term, students will continue to strengthen their comprehension skills by exploring characters, settings, cause and effect, and the deeper ideas and messages within texts. They will study the novel *The Dog Runner*, which connects with our Physical Science unit and will support our students' understanding of light and energy.

Students will continue to participate in a range of reading experiences, including teacher-led focus groups and guided reading groups. These opportunities allow students to discuss texts, share their thinking, use evidence to support their ideas and develop increasingly sophisticated comprehension skills.

Regular reading at home is an important part of developing confident and capable readers. Students are expected to read for 20 minutes each night as part of their homework. A short comment about the reading is expected to be recorded in their diary or Homework book.

As Reading begins during the first hour of the school day, arriving on time is particularly important. Students are expected to be ready to begin the day at 8:50 am.

WRITING

Students will begin the term planning and writing a descriptive text using the theme of blackouts, linking with the inquiry theme of circuits and electricity. Next will be a narrative and then a persuasive text, all using the Blackout theme to use the same bank of words. They will learn to plan and structure their ideas clearly before moving through the writing process of drafting, revising, editing and publishing. Students will engage their readers through well-developed characters, settings, events and language choices. All students have completed a narrative and related painting to be displayed at the upcoming Writer's Festival on Wednesday October 21st and Thursday 22nd October.

Grammar, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary will continue to be explicitly taught and applied within students' writing. Handwriting will also remain a focus as students develop a fluent, legible and individual writing style.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Speaking and Listening skills will be developed across all areas of learning throughout the term. Students will participate in small-group and whole-class discussions, collaborate with their peers, share ideas and reflections, and present their learning to different audiences. They will also continue to develop active listening skills and learn how to respond thoughtfully and respectfully to the ideas of others. These experiences aim to build students' confidence, strengthen their ability to communicate their thinking and support positive collaboration with others.

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NUMERACY

Numeracy is taught every day, with students working in fluid learning groups designed to provide teaching and support that responds to their current learning needs.

This term, students will develop their understanding and skills in:

- Place Value and Decimals – understanding, comparing and calculating with decimal numbers.
- Financial Literacy – use mathematical modelling to solve practical problems involving rational numbers and percentages, including in financial contexts. This will be linked to the Market preparations.
- Mass– students will use common metric units of length, mass and capacity, and decimal representations in the context of a problem.
- Fridays will have a particular focus on problem-solving, with students working collaboratively in mixed groups within their own classrooms. Students will be encouraged to select appropriate strategies, explain their reasoning and apply their mathematical knowledge to unfamiliar and real-world problems.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Physical Science - Light, Electricity and Circuits

Students will explore:

- how light can be produced from many sources, travels, form shadows and can be absorbed, transmitted, reflected or refracted
- how materials can be electrical insulators or conductors
- how energy can be transferred and transformed in electrical circuits where the components of a circuit play particular roles in the function of the circuit.

Design Technologies

Students will:

- generate, iterate and communicate design ideas, decisions and processes using technical terms and graphical representation techniques, using manual and digital tools
- select, explain and use suitable materials, components, tools and techniques to safely make designed solutions

Products, made by the students, will be sold at a Grade 6 Market, to be held in conjunction with Open Streets on Wednesday 13th Novemeber – Week 6.