



GRADE 6 AREA NEWSLETTER TERM 1 2023

WELCOME!

Dear students, parents and caregivers,

We are very excited to begin the New Year and Term 1. We've had a big start with the new school leaders attending their first meeting and stepping-up as the leaders of the school. We also expect every Year 6 student to display and support our school values; We Care About Each Other, We Are Learners, We Are Respectful, and We Are Safe, in their dealings with all staff, students and wider community.

We are currently in the process of sorting and re-assigning access to technology across the Year 6 classes. This will mean that we are able to embed technology more seamlessly in our learning and across all curriculum areas. All students will have a Google Classroom account and access to a range of educational platforms. We appreciate parents going through the Digitech Code Of Conduct contract with their children so that we can all use technology safely and with the school values in mind.

Portsea Camp is quickly approaching, and we look forward to sharing this special time with our Grade Six students, where they get to interact with their close friends but also develop new friendships across the cohort in a completely different environment. Activities will include kayaking, surf life saving, giant swing, flying fox, a campfire, and of course eating delicious camp food. Please take the time to go through the checklist of 'What To Bring To Camp,' with your child.

Kind regards,

Grade 6 Team

THE GRADE 6 TEAM:

Room 10 – 6J	Room 11 - 6K	Room 18 – 6F
Mr Andrew Aitken	Ms Jo Rigby	Miss Olivia Franco

Congratulations to our 2023 School Leaders:

School Captains :

Alara M & Christian J

Senior Leaders:

Alessio.A, Lia.C, Jomei.D, Florence.H, Rachel.H, Priscilla.L, Mila.R, Hadley.S

UPCOMING EVENTS TERM 1:

Week	Date/Event	Details
ALL	Mondays	Weekly Homework Due
ALL	Fridays	Interschool sports (see Sports section for details) or House Sports & Whole School Assembly
5.	27th Feb - Camp Payments Due	Information and details on Compass
6.	1st - 3rd March - Grade 6 Camp	Portsea Camp
8.	13th March - Labour Day public holiday	No school
9.	15th March	CERES Excursion
10.	22nd March	Engineers Without Borders Incursion
11.	30th March	Forensic Science Incursion
12.	Thursday 6th of April - Last day of Term 1	

CURRICULUM:

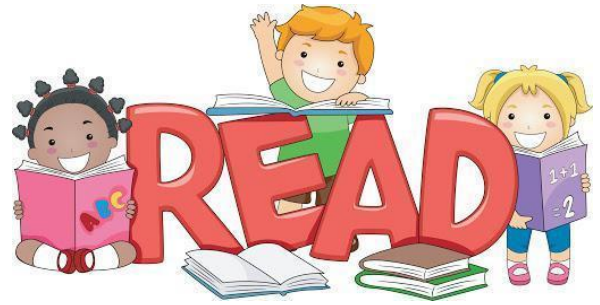
ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing:

As both students and teachers settle into routine, students will develop an understanding of reading expectations to set them up for the rest of the year. This involves the establishment of Classroom Libraries and routines around what good readers do.

For example, all students should have both a fiction and non-fiction book in their Book Boxes to support their learning in the classroom. Students will also deepen their ability to interpret explicit information within a text and discuss whether there are

alternate meanings that are not directly stated. Students will be learning to make inferences in what they are reading and reorganising information to support their reading comprehension.



Writing:

To begin the term the students will develop their narrative writing skills; especially the writer's process. They will learn to nurture a seed to generate new ideas for writing, and build on their ideas during the planning process, drafting stages and revising stages. Following the focus on narratives, students will develop their abilities to write procedural texts which will complement the learning undertaken in their Inquiry unit.

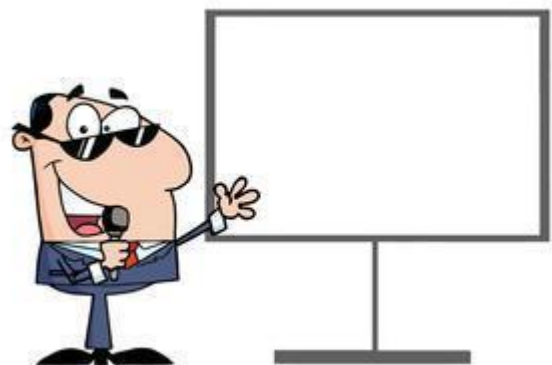
Throughout the term students will also explore grammatical features such as the parts of speech, punctuation in dialogue and complex sentence structures. This will be supported by our Structured Word Inquiry programme which will allow students

to deepen their understanding of spelling through exploration of word etymologies, identifying base elements, prefixes and suffixes to understand how words are constructed. By the end of the term, students will have deepened their understanding of the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) to support their writing for the rest of the academic year.



Speaking and Listening:

Speaking and listening are necessary for effective communication. Students will have the opportunity to explore and practice important skills that include the ability to share and clarify their ideas depending on the context and purpose. For example, changing their tone when sharing their writing for the purpose of entertainment or emphasis. They will also explore and develop the spoken language features such as pace, pitch and pronunciation to enhance meaning. Students will do this through class discussions, circle time, presentations and a variety of other class, unit

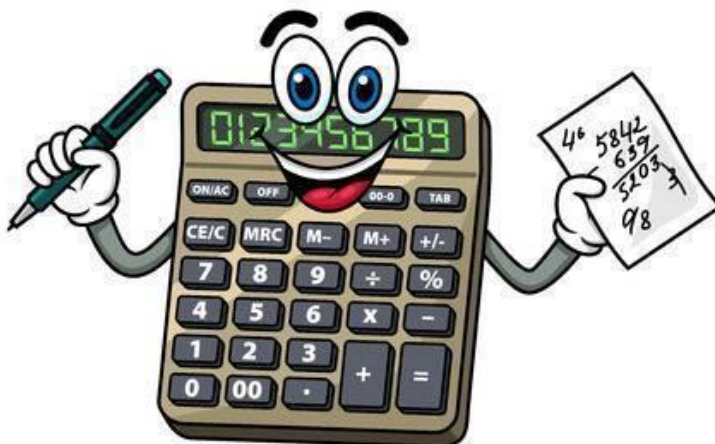


and whole school activities. Speaking and Listening is an important part of building *student voice and agency* which is one of our whole school goals.

MATHEMATICS:

Students will be developing their skills in fluency and understanding, problem solving and reasoning. They will be extending their knowledge of the place value of numbers from four digits up to seven digits, including decimal numbers. Students will work on skills to help their understanding such as partitioning, rounding and estimating, as well as developing efficient counting tools. They will work on solving real life worded problems as well as open ended problems. Students will further their understanding of two and three dimensional shapes including making models.

Students will also work on collecting, interpreting and organising data.



INQUIRY:

To begin the Term we will look at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders histories and culture. We will deepen their knowledge of Australia by engaging with the world's oldest continuous living culture. We will break down some of the current issues in the media and have classroom discussions around these topics.

Towards the end of the Term, the Grade 6 students will be introduced to the science of forensics. It is intended that students will learn what forensic science is and how the work of forensic scientists compares to that of characters in the popular TV shows and movies. Students will learn about and consider the sorts of ethical issues related to forensics, in particular the topical issue of DNA data banks.

VALUES:



We are Learners, We are Safe, We are Respectful and We Care about each other!

To support Coburg West's school values, students will participate in a range of lessons and activities which will develop their capacity to be learners, be safe, be respectful, and show they care for one another. To support this, Grade 6 students will take part in the Buddies program with Grade 2 students; this program will allow students to model expected behaviours and take on the responsibility of having a buddy from the junior years to assist during recess and lunch breaks. Students will also explore the school values through practicing the positive behaviours contained in the values matrix

Another important initiative relating to students' personal wellbeing is the construction of our 'Hands of Safety and Support' which are displayed in rooms and name the people each student sees as an important part of their support network.

A relatively new school wide program which is delivered in each Grade 6 class is Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR). Term 1 2023 will focus on recognising and understanding emotions. Through a variety of activities, roleplays, games and listening challenges, students will become aware of strong, negative and positive emotions in themselves and recognise them in others as well as strategies to help overcome negative emotions.

HOME LEARNING:

Each week students will be expected to read a take home book (from the school library, from the student's personal collection or local library), practise their times tables and in addition complete a weekly task set on Google Classroom. Nightly reading is encouraged and students are expected to write the book title and pages read each night in their diary. Parents are asked to sign off on this. When students are unable to read because of extra-curricular activities such as sporting commitments we ask that this information is noted in the diary and that students attempt to read for a little longer on another night. For example; dancing 2 hours so no reading on Tuesday, reading 60 minutes on Wednesday.

Please ensure that the diary is returned to school on a Monday for teachers to check and to assist your child in becoming more responsible for their own learning.

Home learning tasks cover different curriculum areas and vary from week to week and can include hands-on experiences such as construction, completing worksheets, or investigating inquiry topics and creating projects. If you have any questions about homework, refer to the homework guidelines or speak to your child's classroom teacher.



Home Learning will be uploaded to your students' Google Classroom on a Monday morning. It will then be due on the following Monday. A hard copy is available from your class teacher on request.

SPORT:

Grade 6s will be competing in Interschool Sports this term, with Slow Pitch Softball, Basketball and Bat Tennis all on offer. Each week students will be either training in their selected sport, or competing against other schools in the area. Any students selected in Interschool Sport will be notified by their coach, the competition schedule will also be posted in the Grade 6 stairwell.

The students that are not competing in Interschool Sports will have an opportunity to participate in house sports led by House Captains.

In all sporting endeavours this term, students will be rewarded by demonstrating school values beyond all else. We believe that the most meaningful contributions on the field and court are those that demonstrate sportsmanship, respect, care, endeavour, encouragement and determination.

Kind regards,

The Grade 6 Team



**COBURG DISTRICT
INTERSCHOOL SPORT SUMMER FIXTURE 2023**

DIVISION 1 FIRST NAMED TEAM IS THE HOME TEAM.

ROUND	DATE		BAT TENNIS	BASKETBALL	SOFTBALL
1	FRIDAY FEB 17	PASCOE VALE NORTH v COBURG NORTH PASCOE VALE v COBURG WEST MORELAND v ST OLIVERS PASCOE VALE SOUTH v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL
2	FRIDAY FEB 24	ST OLIVERS v PASCOE VALE COBURG WEST v PASCOE VALE NORTH COBURG NORTH v PASCOE VALE SOUTH MORELAND v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	RAEBURN RE SERVE SHORE RE SERVE SCHOOL
3	FRIDAY MAR 3	PASCOE VALE v PASCOE VALE SOUTH MORELAND v COBURG NORTH ST OLIVERS v COBURG WEST PASCOE VALE NORTH v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL RAEBURN RE SERVE
4	FRIDAY MAR 10	COBURG WEST v MORELAND COBURG NORTH v PASCOE VALE PASCOE VALE SOUTH v PASCOE VALE NORTH ST OLIVERS v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SHORE RE SERVE SCHOOL SCHOOL
5	FRIDAY MAR 17	MORELAND v PASCOE VALE NORTH ST OLIVERS v PASCOE VALE SOUTH COBURG WEST v COBURG NORTH PASCOE VALE v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL RAEBURN RE SERVE SHORE RE SERVE
6	FRIDAY MAR 24	COBURG NORTH v ST OLIVERS PASCOE VALE SOUTH v MORELAND PASCOE VALE NORTH v PASCOE VALE COBURG WEST v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL
7	FRIDAY MAR 31	PASCOE VALE SOUTH v COBURG WEST PASCOE VALE NORTH v ST OLIVERS PASCOE VALE v MORELAND COBURG NORTH v BYE	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL	SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL
		ALL GAMES COMMENCE AT 11.30AM & CONCLUDE AT 1.00PM			