Welcome to Term 2. We hope that everyone has enjoyed a restful break together with their family and friends and are now ready for a busy and productive term.

We continue to encourage the children to use their diaries as an effective organisational and management tool. Home reading continues to be an important component of your child's weekly tasks and it is important that you check their reading material and reading logs each night.

All students are now fully aware of classroom and school expectations. We expect this positive behaviour to continue with your support.

The Leadership Program with School Captains, House Captains and Peer Leaders is well underway. Students have been involved in preparing and delivering reports at whole school assemblies. Student Leaders will begin to initate activities across the school. This includes a lunch time running club, play time peer supervision and buddy reading. Our School Captains and House Captains will be conducting the ANZAC Ceremony on Wednesday 24th April.

Our year 6 students are involved in the Hobson’s Bay Junior School Council program. Each month three students are selected to represent our school and give a report to the Hobson’s Bay Council on the activities that are taking place within our school. Junior School Council also reports on any issues regarding pet ownership, litter, local parks and public reserve concerns and ideas for improving the community.

Curriculum Overview

**English**

Within the key learning area of English, the focus will be on the reading comprehension strategies of text features and text structures, prediction, questioning, summarising and visualization. Sustained independent reading and reading conferences will continue to be developed. Our writing focus will be on the genres of information reports and letter writing. In preparation for the NAPLAN testing in May students have looked at writing persuasive texts and studied texts as a text genre. Writing notebooks and writing conferences will continue to play an important role in the students learning.

**Mathematics**

In Mathematics, students will complete tasks from the following strands: Number-(addition, subtraction, multiplication, division); Space-(position, direction, mapping, location); Measurement-(temperature) and Chance and Data-(graphing). Students will be involved in Scaffold learning tasks.

The students will continue to develop their Problem Solving Strategies through the experience of open-ended problems derived from everyday experiences. These problems require the application of number facts, mathematical operations as well as an understanding of when to apply them.

The students will demonstrate their understanding of these concepts through the use of the “Pictures, Numbers and Words” process.

**Inquiry Unit**

Our unit of Inquiry is “Earn and Learn” and will be based around the Major Understanding that ‘Our economic climate affects how we manage our money.’ The learning domains that will receive major emphasis through the inquiry unit will be, Interpersonal Development, Communication, Personal and Social Learning, Thinking Processes and Economics.

The key focus questions will be:

- How can we make informed decisions as consumers?
- How do we earn money?
- What is the difference between needs and wants?
- How do we move our budgets from one of deficit into one of surplus?
- Why do we need to manage our money?

Interschool Sport

Selection for the 5/6 Winter Inter School Sports are now underway and includes: Soccer, Netball, Football and Softball. The first game will commence on May 10th.

The ANPS Cross Country athletics team is in the process of being selected and the children represent will us in the WADSSA Championships on the 7th of May.

Good luck everyone!

**Transition**

All Year Six students have received their secondary placement forms and are all excitedly making choices for their secondary education. Please ensure your child returns the Transition forms as Friday May 31st is the deadline for the return of applications to school.

**Wakakirri**

This term the 5/6 students will be resuming their Wakakirri journey. The students will compete in the “Story Dance” component of Wakakirri and perform at The Clocktower Venue in early Term 3. The Grade 5/6 students will again be participating in the Wakakirri “Story Writing” competition. A story writing competition will be held at school and four entries will be chosen to represent our school.

**NAPLAN**

The Year 5 students will undertake the common National Assessment Program for Numeracy and Literacy tests (NAPLAN) during the week of May 13th. In Literacy the students will be tested in the areas of Reading, Writing, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. In Numeracy, the students will be tested in the areas of Number, Space, Measurement, Chance and Data.

We look forward to receiving all students’ assessment reports later in the year.

Kind Regards,

Lisa Ousley, Wally Raghdo and Rob Avolino.
Computers
During this term, the children will be exploring the ‘Ultranet’, and its features. They will be learning the safety aspects of the ‘Ultranet’ and how to respect others using the ‘Ultranet’. The children will have the opportunity to personalise their home page by changing the layout and adding and removing applications. They will begin to learn about ‘wikis’, ‘blogs’, ‘polls’ and message boards to enhance collaborative learning.

Physical Education
Term two will see the entire 5/6 unit involved in the winter sport program. Every Friday the students will participate in one of the following sports; Football, Soccer, Softball, Netball. These sport programs are offered as a supplement to the class physical education program. This provides students with the opportunity to experience involvement in a sports competition and reinforces the importance of team work and following match rules. Term two is going to be a busy one for the grade 5/6 students with all students being offered the opportunity to try-out for the Athletics team. The students will be working extremely hard during their lesson time learning the correct skills and techniques for both track and field events of Athletics. The students will be involved in workshop-based lessons learning the skills and will then have the opportunity to compete against their classmates in a competition like environment. The students will participate in all of the following activities: Shot Put, discus, long jump, triple jump, High Jump, 100m sprint, 110m hurdles, 200m, 400m and 800m. The Inter School Athletics carnival is fast approaching and will be held in September. Term two also involves the SSV Altona District Cross Country competition students selected to represent Altona North Primary School will be training to compete in a 3km endurance running event.

Visual Arts
The children will commence the term by remembering the Anzacs and creating artwork after reading ‘Lone Pine’. Observational drawings will be completed with an emphasis on perspective, mood, movement and effective shading techniques. A Triptych, which is a work of art that is divided into three sections, will become one of the focuses for the term, with the children making their own choices of mediums to be used. Tie dyeing will be explored and the children will make a Mexican God’s Eye. The children will also engage in activities involving Drawing, Collage, Textiles and Painting.

Music & Performing Arts
During term two, grade 5/6 students will focus on the creation, development and performance of a story for the 2013 entry into the Wakakirri story-dance category. Students will work within their classes as well as the whole 5/6 cohort to create a performance, which will tell a story using only movement and dance. Students will also focus on creating sustainable props and costumes for the performance, as Wakakirri has a strong belief in Sustainability & the Environment. Students will develop and build their skills in drama, dance and performance, with a strong focus on literacy and teamwork.

Sustainability
During term 2 the students at all year levels take a more practical, active and leading role in the organisation and management of the recycling program. In the all classrooms students are encouraged to be sustainable in their use of all their resources. They are also responsible for the collection of water from buckets that are placed under the taps in the playground, and used to water newly planted native plants in the school gardens.

With parent support we ask that students are reminded to care for and maintain our environment during all school outdoor activities by ensuring that we reduce waste i.e. packaging / plastic wrapping etc. and placing any of their waste in the appropriate bins.

Developing a healthy school environment is an important part of student learning. All students are encouraged to care for our school flora and fauna in the hope that students develop positive links and appreciation of our natural environment.