TERM 3 2016

GRADE 1/2 NEWSLETTER

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<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>21st July</th>
<th>100 days of school</th>
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<td>22nd Aug Light &amp; Sound Incursion</td>
<td>29th Aug-2nd Sept</td>
<td>Literacy/Numeracy Week</td>
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<td>7th Sept Kids Thrive Concert</td>
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Information

Thank you to all parents and families who supported the Kids Thrive Performance. It was great to see so many people watching the children performing to the songs they created.

“I felt embarrassed but happy. I can’t wait for the next semester.” (Evangellea P)

“It was the best day ever. I thought I was in a dream.” (Logan K)

“I was scared and nervous. I was a loud singer and proud to be me.” (Marley L)

“I was a little nervous when I was dancing out the front” (Gideon C)

“I like the songs because it is about caring for each other.” (Bilal L)

100 Days of learning. To celebrate 100 days of learning we would like the children to bring a collection of 100 things into school.

Literacy

Students will be focusing on the reading comprehension strategies: text structure and features and inference. They will be reading and writing, procedural texts and letters/postcards. Students will be sequencing steps and events, selecting appropriate verbs and nouns and the correct layout when writing procedural texts.

Students will show their understanding of different genres and comprehension strategies in their recordings of their reflections and in personal goal setting.

As they continue to utilise their Writer’s Notebook, students are developing into more independent, confident and responsible writers. They are selecting their own genre to write. They are more familiar with the writing process as they move from the selection of the topic, writing the draft, revising and editing and publishing.

Numeracy

Units of work covered this term will be: place value, addition, subtraction, time, multiplication, division, fractions, money, length and area.

Students will continue to demonstrate their understanding of the topics, using a variety of materials and strategies. They will also continue to record their thinking, explaining the strategies they use to approach the task.

To reinforce your child’s understanding, you can engage in activities that will require them to:

* read and interpret two, three and four digit numbers in addresses and house numbers.
* tell the time using o’clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to relating to routines at home.
* select appropriate coins to make amounts.
* measure ingredients when cooking using terms such as a half or a quarter cup of milk.
* measure items using uniform units (something that is always the same size e.g. Unifix block) and formal units such as centimetres.

INQUIRY

Our SCIENCE based topic this term is;
“Lights, Mirrors, Sounds”.

Our Major Topic Understanding is: Light and Sound plays an important role in the world that we live.

Our Focus Questions are:
What is light and sound?
Where does it come from and how do we use it?
How does light and sound affect our daily lives?
How has science contributed to our culture and society?
What roles have scientist played in developing our world?

We will also have a mini inquiry unit on the “Olympic Games.”

Our Major Topic Understanding is: The Olympic Games promotes good sports, values and attitudes and an understanding of different cultures.

Our Focus Questions are:
What are the Olympic games?
Why do we have the Olympic games?
Who competes at the Olympic games?
What sports are involved in the Olympics?
Who are some famous Olympians?

Also thank you for:
A big thank you to those families and students who participated in The National Reading Month Challenge in May. You have successfully tracked your family reading time at home for a whole month. Well done and congratulations.

An incursion has been planned. It is called ‘Mad About Science’ and it will based on our Inquiry topic Light and Sound. This will allow students to further develop their understanding and experiences. Parent/carers will receive information shortly.

1/2 Unit: Class Teachers: Chantal Touma, David Jaggard, Julie Georgiou
Support staff: Mary Day, Libby Blunt
Term 3 2016

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Specialist’s Curriculum Overview

Visual Arts
Throughout Term 3 the children in Grade 1 / 2 will continue to learn and explore new techniques and skills associated with the Visual Arts. The main focus for the term will be to relate artwork around the ‘Olympic Games’ and Literacy / Book Week.
The children will continue to gain a greater understanding of the elements of the Visual Arts and will be encouraged to use appropriate arts language when engaged in a discussions about artwork.

Literacy / Book Week will be inspiration for further activities. A selection of books will be read to the children and associated 2 and 3-Dimensional activities will be completed. The children will create artwork relating to the story or characters, or will gain ideas from the illustrations using drawing, painting, printing or modelling (sculpture) techniques. The children will explore skills in collage using a variety of materials. Simple mosaic techniques will also be experienced.

Deb Morgan

Music / Performing Arts
The 1/2 students this term will focus on experimenting with musical elements and accordingly develop their ability to perceive, reproduce and compose with these musical tools.
Dynamics, rhythm and melody will be explored verbally, visually and audibly through voice, percussion and melodic instruments. The ukulele was in high demand last term and will be introduced and explored as a means of allowing students to explore and express themselves musically.

Students will also develop their Western notation skills as a means of composing their own rhythmic passages to be played over songs.
The songs we will cover throughout the term will include Papa Noel’s “Juliana”, “Oye Como Va”, “The Adventure Time Theme” and “You’ve Got a Friend in Me”. Be sure to have a listen!
We will also be choosing a theme for the end of year concert and song ideas. Have your ideas ready!

John Koutsonikolas

Physical Education
In Term 3 students will start an introduction to Major Games which will aim at building motor skills to be used in their future sporting endeavours. These will include skills derived from sports such as basketball, hockey, football, ultimate Frisbee, and soccer to name a few. Term 3 will also have a large focus on teamwork and sportsmanship.

Steven Clark

Sustainability:
This year ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’ will be held on Friday July 29th. ANPS has been an active participant in the ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’ every year for the last 13 years, with all students being involved in planting a tree, shrub or plant, helping to improve our school’s environment. This year ANPS has designated the same day as an ‘Environmental Day’ as part of our school’s commitment to the environment and sustainability and in support of ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’.
Throughout this day, all students will be given the opportunity to plant a native tree in their grade’s designated area in the school’s gardens. Some grade 5/6 students will provide the rest of the school with support and guidance in planting and caring for trees. During the day, students across the school will participate in classroom based activities with an Environmental focus. These activities will assist in the development of the students’ knowledge and appreciation of trees as a sustainable resource and the important role that trees have on our planet.

In support of our ‘Environmental Day’ (Friday July 29th) ANPS will be having a ‘Rubbish Free Day’. We request that all parents support this event by ensuring that children’s ‘snacks and lunch’ are packed in containers or materials which can either be recycled or reused with minimal or no rubbish going into the school bins.
It is hoped that the ‘Environmental Day’ will assist students in gaining a greater understanding and connection with their environment and the need to care for it.
We look forward with excitement to the opening of the school “Vegetable garden” later in the term. ANPS was supported by Hobsons Bay Council in this project, which will further enhance our school ground and learning landscape.
Altona North Primary School is an accredited “Water-Live it Learn it” school and as part of our commitment to this program we will commence preparations to participate in the National Water Week, which will be held from the 16th to 20th of October (Term 4).