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 regularly.

All students are now fully aware of classroom and school behaviour 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 are beginning to initiate activities across the school.

Our School Captains and House Captains will be conducting an ANZAC Day service at assembly on TUESDAY 26th April. You will be conducting an ANZAC Day service at assembly.

Our year 6 students are involved in the Hobson's Bay Junior School Council program. They are beginning to initiate activities across the school.

The domains that will receive major emphasis through the inquiry program will be:

- Civics and Citizenship
- Humanities Geography and History
- English

The Focus Questions will be explored and developed within the inquiry unit.

* When and why do people leave their country of origin to make Australia their home?
* How do immigrants assimilate into the Australian way of life and still hold onto aspects of their cultural heritage and how does this influence change?
* Where did major groups settle?
* Where are the immigrants/migrants from?

Curriculum Overview

**Literacy**

Within the key learning area of English, the focus will be on the Reading Comprehension Strategies, text features and text structures, prediction, questioning, summarising and visualization. Sustained independent reading and reading conferences will continue to be developed. Book Clubs will continue to be run during reading sessions to further develop the students knowledge of the question answer relationships and enrich their reading. Our writing focus will be on the genres of Persuasive Text and Narrative. Writing notebooks and writing conferences will continue to play an important role in the students’ learning.

**Numeracy**

In Mathematics, students will complete tasks from the following strands: Number and Algebra-(addition, subtraction, multiplication, division); Measurement and Geometry-position, direction, mapping, location and temperature) Students will be involved in Scaffold learning tasks. Scaffolding Numeracy sessions will take place once a week aimed at developing the students’ multiplicative thinking. 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.

**Inquiry Unit**

This term the Inquiry Unit titled: “Leaving and Arriving – Our Immigration Story” will be based around the key concepts of identity, beliefs and cultural diversity.

The domains that will receive major emphasis through the inquiry will be Humanities Geography and History along with Civics and Citizenship.

The Major Understandings to be explored and developed within the inquiry unit will be:

- People leave their country of origin to make Australia their home for many different reasons and their arrival has shaped and continues to shape Australia’s national identity and culture.

The Focus Questions will be:

- "What and why do people leave their country of origin to make Australia their home?"
- "How do immigrants assimilate into the Australian way of life and still hold onto aspects of their cultural heritage and how does this influence change?"
- "Where did major groups settle?"
- "Where are the immigrants/migrants from?"

Important Dates

| Last day term 2: 24th June | NAPLAN: 10, 11, 12 May |
| First day term 3: 11th July |                          |
| ANZAC Day: 25th April Queens B/Day: 13th June | Interschool sport: May 6th |

Interschool Sport

Our grade 5/6 Winter Sport Team selection trials will be occurring on Friday 22nd of April. We are looking forward to participating in the ADSSA competition starting on Friday 6th of May. The winter sports are: Football, Soccer, Netball and T-Ball. Winter Sport will now be played in the morning session with matches beginning at 9:15am and concluding at 10:30am. We look forward to having as many parents as possible come along to support the children. If you are able to assist with the weekly washing of sports uniforms or even coaching and umpiring please speak to either one of the grade 5/6 teachers.

Transition

All Year Six students have received their secondary placement forms and are all excitedly making choices for their secondary education. Transition visits will occur through out term 2 to varying local high schools. Please ensure that you return your transition forms to Mr. Raghdo by no later than the 13th of May to avoid disappointment.

Wakakirri

This year the 5/6 students will be enjoying their Wakki journey. Our fantastic School Hall provides exceptional facilities to accommodate the practice required for the Wakakirri competition in “Story Dance”. Please see our Specialist page on the back for some further exciting news on this wonderful program. We cannot wait to see the story take shape!!

NAPLAN

The Year 5 students will undertake the National Assessment Program for Numeracy and Literacy tests (NAPLAN) during the week of May 10th. 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,

The Year 5/6 Team,
Vanessa Shiels
Wally Raghdo
Rob Avolino


**Visual Arts**

The children will commence the term, by observing illustrations in the book ‘In Flander’s Field’, followed by a drawing/collage activity. ‘Our Sunset, My World’ is the theme for an exhibition to be held at Federation Square. This event relates to ‘Have a heart for Cambodia 2016’ campaign. Our school will be contributing a small selection of artwork to be exhibited and then be part of a silent auction to raise funds for Cambodia. The children will be made aware of this exhibition, the purpose of this exhibition and will create an artwork for selection.

The 5/6 current Inquiry Topic, “Leaving and Arriving– Our Immigration Story” will be used as inspiration for activities throughout the term. The children will discover influences from different cultures and traditions and will explore some of the skills and techniques used to create their own art work. The children will gain a greater understanding of arts language and will use this language when describing artwork and in class discussions. The children will learn about different artists through time and artists and art styles will be explored with children creating their own work using these styles.

The children will engage in painting, drawing and sculpture skills and techniques and will also complete mixed media projects and will work collaboratively to complete other projects.

Deb Morgan

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**Music / Performing Arts**

Grade 5/6 students will have a primary focus on Wakakirri this term.

A GREAT STORY CAN CHANGE THE WAY PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND THEM. WAKAKIRRI IS A PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL WHERE SCHOOLS AIM TO DO JUST THAT.

As a result students will partake in a range of different activities, rehearsals and collaborative tasks. Such tasks involve groups brainstorming ideas for a story, creating interpretive dance/movements, negotiating and using communication skills within the class and partaking in dress rehearsals.

Not all students have to act, although participation in all of these activities and creating a backstage crew will be the key in ensuring a fun and meaningful performance is experienced for all.

Furthermore, students will focus on developing their music skills using technology based resources. Internet based resources include ‘Incredibox’, ‘buttonbass’ and ‘Beatlab’. Visit [http://www.wakakirri.com](http://www.wakakirri.com) to find out more.

John Koutsonikolas

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**Physical Education**

Term 2 will be a busy one for students in grade 5/6 with Winter Sports kicking off in Week 4. Sports will include Football, Soccer, Netball, and Tee-Ball which will cater for a wide range of skills and abilities.

Also during term 2, students will be preparing for the athletics carnival and Cross Country by completing a different event each week with results being recorded to help select the team. The main focus of this unit is to build on previous knowledge and improve student’s technique and fitness so they are able to perform at the best of their ability.

Steven Clark

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**Sustainability:**

During term 2 the students at all year levels take a more practical, active and leading role in the organization and management of the recycling program. In the all classrooms students are encouraged to be sustainable in their use of all their resources.

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 waste and recycling bins.

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

Wal Raghdo