Traditionally this term passes very quickly because there are so many events on the calendar that mark the conclusion of the year. However, for our 5/6 students the beginning of Term 4 represents a wonderful opportunity to grow.

NAPLAN results were made available last term for collection for all our Year 5 students. If parents have concerns or queries regarding the results please make an appointment to see your child’s classroom teacher. If you haven’t collected these results please do so from the office.

Our grade 5/6 students will be continuing to undertake work in our Environmental Studies Program. They will regularly tend to their crops in the veggie patch and will continue maintaining our school grounds and wetlands area. It was exciting to hear the wonderful croaks of the frogs back at the start of spring after disappearing during the cold winter months.

On Tuesday 6th of December our year six students will attend an orientation day at their 2017 secondary college. This is to assist with the transition from primary to secondary school.

We look forward to the Year 6 Graduation and celebrating this milestone with all our parents and school community. The Graduation will take place on the night of the school concert in our School Hall. The Big Day out for our year 6 students will be on in December. This is a day of both celebration and reflection of their time and journey through their primary school years.

We wish to remind students that it is vital for them to keep working hard for the remaining few months. The homework and study routines need to remain in place, so that students end the year with a sense of accomplishment and fond memories of their time at Altona North Primary School.

We are looking forward to our annual Beach Program being held on the 22nd of November at Altona Beach. This is a vital program for promoting beach and water safety at our local coastal environment. The program activities include: Survival Strokes, Reach, Throw, Tow, Row and Go, Beach Knowledge, making a rip, life jacket snorkelling, Boarda, flag races, rescue race, swim wade and DRSABCD. This program is on offer for all grade 5/6 students.

**CURRICULUM OVERVIEW**

**LITERACY**

Within the key learning area of Literacy the focus will be on students developing their Questioning and Reflection skills in reading and writing Poetic texts. This will involve the craft of poetry, the features of poetry and the meaning of poetry. Another focus will be on reading and writing Information reports. Students will be guided to consolidate Spelling strategies throughout the writing process. The emphasis will be on using correct Grammar and Punctuation in written work. They will be involved in proof-reading and editing their writing to ensure it conveys the intended meaning. All classroom libraries are now a part of the Independent Reading program. Students practise choosing “Just Right” books and being involved in Reading Conferences with their teacher. Students will continue to develop their reading comprehension skills during independent reading sessions. We encourage parents to talk with their children about the books they are reading to support the Home Reading program. As part of the Inquiry Unit on Sustainability, students will be required to give oral presentations on a research project.

**NUMERACY**

In Numeracy, the students will continue to broaden their understanding of Place Value and Problem Solving that involves the four operations, for example + , - , . Students will also study 3D Shapes, Mass, Volume, Capacity and Graphing. Numeracy walls in all classrooms will continue to display student generated thinking about mathematics. These walls are used as part of the teaching and learning of all topic areas. Students will revise mathematical concepts that have been undertaken this year. These include place value, fractions, mapping, chance & data and measurement activities. Online testing will continue to assist the teachers with future planning and final assessments. Scaffolding Numeracy will remain being a pivotal part of the 5/6 Numeracy program during term 4.

**INQUIRY UNIT**

**Main Topic Understanding** that, “The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of the environment and the sustainable use of earth’s resources”.

Students will be investigating and responding to the Focus Questions:

- How do we share our environment with other living things?
- Where do our resources come from?
- What are our rights and responsibilities to protect the earth’s resources?
- How do living things adapt to survive in their environment?
- How do humans impact the earth’s natural environment?
- Why is it important to live sustainably and to care and protect our planet?

As part of their Inquiry, students will have the opportunity to use the internet to research areas related to the topic and report their investigations.

**BIKE ED**

Students will be involved in theory and practical activities such as bike maintenance, riding and handling skills, safety, road rules and road riding. The students will participate in 8 school based sessions and successful completion of these sessions will result in selection for 2 on road local community rides.

We look forward to your continued support The Year 5/6 Teaching Team.

Classroom Teachers: Vanessa Shiels and Wally Raghdo

ES: Rob Avolino