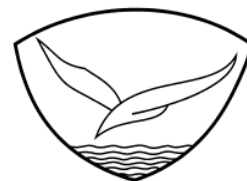


TERM 1 2021

# GRADE 5/6 NEWSLETTER



"Consider Others"

## Important Dates

DATE	EVENT
8 Feb	Beach Program
19 Feb	Interschool sports begin

### Welcome to term 1, 2021

We would like to welcome your child to the senior unit for 2021. We have started Term 1 off with a very positive and confident approach and are looking forward to a term filled with in-depth inquiries and rich experiences for all. This year the 5/6 Unit consists of two classes with Mr James (5/6J) and Miss Duffy (5/6D). We are excited to once again be working with the 5/6 students. We also welcome Libby back who will be involved with the educational support program. We have set out below a few points of interest related to general classroom procedure at this level.

**Mornings-** All children are expected to be at line up by 8:45am each morning to be ready for the day's lessons. We ask for your cooperation in getting your child to school on time so that he/she does not feel rushed or pressured when arriving in the classroom.

**Homework-** A Home Learning task is usually given out weekly. We ask that you encourage your child/children to complete homework to their best ability and on time. Homework supports classroom learning, it develops good study habits leading in to high school, and it gives children responsibility and ownership of their learning.

**Reading-** At this level, students should be reading at least 45 minutes a night. Reading is an important part of homework and all children are expected to read each night, choosing material according to their own level and interest. Reading Log Books need to be completed by students every day and signed by parents.

**Discipline-** All classes at ANPS follow a values based discipline approach and this is supported through a whole school focus on RELATIONSHIPS and LEADERSHIP, the school's Vision and Values and the School Wide Positive Behaviours Matrix (included in your child's diary). Please talk to your child about these procedures.

**Diaries-** Students will be actively recording reminders about personal tasks and upcoming whole school and class events in their school diaries. Parents please check and sign the diary each week. The student diary is also a parent / teacher communication tool, so please feel free to communicate with classroom teachers as required.

### Curriculum Overview

#### Literacy

Within Literacy students will be looking at narratives texts in Term 1. Students will have opportunities to investigate values and beliefs as they relate to effective leadership through reading and research. They will demonstrate their understanding through the development and delivery of speeches for student leadership positions. Students will discuss their own strengths and set goals for their learning.

Students will be using classroom libraries on a daily basis and developing comprehension strategies to improve their reading. Their understanding and reflections will be recorded in their reading journals and displayed on classroom "Literacy Walls".

Students will undertake various reading and writing assessments at the start of the year. These will assist teachers in planning programs which meet students' needs.

This year, Writer's Notebooks and writing conferences will continue to be developed as tools to enhance the students' writing and learning experiences.

#### Numeracy

Similar to literacy, students will undertake a number of assessment tasks at the beginning of the year to determine their learning needs and inform the development of the numeracy program.

Specific areas of study will include developing students' addition and subtraction strategies, place value knowledge and understanding of whole and decimal numbers.

Students will have many opportunities to engage in problem-solving to improve their ability to apply strategies like addition and multiplication to new situations. This problem-solving will include 'open-ended' problems which may have a number of possible answers. Their ideas and insights will be displayed on classroom "Numeracy Walls".

Students will take part in weekly scaffolding mathematics sessions to encourage them to think more multiplicatively.

#### Robotics

Students will be developing their critical and creative thinking through robotics. Within this program, children will plan, construct, and develop coding skills through programming their robot.

### Inquiry Unit

This term the first unit of Inquiry is called "Relationships and Learning - Leading the Way". It will be based around the concepts of Values, Responsibilities and Leadership. There will be a focus on Interpersonal Development, Personal Learning and Thinking. The major understandings to be explored and developed within this unit of inquiry will be:

*Values and attitudes affect all aspects of our lives which may influence our rights, responsibilities and consequences.*

The focus questions for this unit of work are:

1. Why do we have values and attitudes?
2. Where do my values come from?
3. In what ways do values influence how I behave every day?
4. How do leaders influence society?
5. What are common leadership qualities?

**Leadership-** Grade 6 students will have the opportunity to deliver speeches in respect of House and Peer Leadership positions. School and House Captains will take part in the Young Leaders' Day Conference coming up next term. This is a marvelous opportunity for the students to listen to the leadership views of inspirational and positive role models. An objective of the day will be to empower students with practical skills and motivation to positively contribute to the school and their own personal lives.

**Summer Interschool Sport** begins on Feb 19 with teams representing Tennis Hot Shots, Volley Stars, and Basketball. All students will be participating in interschool sport in 2021

**Grade 6 Transition-** Parents of grade 6 students should be thinking about which school they would like their child to attend in 2022 as a Year 7 student. More details about this will be coming home in the next few weeks. It is now a good idea to be taking tours of local High Schools and attending information sessions, to begin the decision making

Many thanks from the 5/6 teaching team: Teachers, Chris James, and Jessica Duffy and ES Support Staff Libby.