

SALTWATER P-9 COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



KEY DATES

Swimming Program:
Preps: 25 Nov – 6 Dec
Years 4-6: 9 Dec – 19 Dec

New Preps Transition Days:
3, 4 & 5 Dec

Preps Stay and Play: 5 Dec

Performing Arts Concert: 27 Nov

Student Led 3-Way Conferences: 9 & 10 Dec

Year 6 Transition Day:
10 Dec (public schools only)

Year 6 Graduation: 11 Dec

Christmas Carols: 18 Dec

Internal School Transition: 19 Dec

Last day of school:
20 Dec, 1:00pm dismissal

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

With four weeks to go until the end of the year, we are looking forward to many wonderful upcoming community events to see us through to Christmas. I would like to welcome all new parents and students who will be joining us in 2020 including our new Prep cohort.

It was great to see so many Prep students and their parents attending their first transition day at Saltwater College. The students looked happy and settled, which means that they are certainly ready to begin school next year.

We look forward to meeting the rest of our Prep cohort at our upcoming Prep Transition days in December. As you would have read in previous newsletters, we have hired a number of new staff. This process will continue well into the next fortnight. In every newsletter we will endeavour to introduce the new staff to the community.

The Year 1-6 Transition day will be held on the 19th of December. This is where all students will have the opportunity to meet their new teacher and classmates for next year. Please note that students were asked to select 5 friends they wish to be in a class with next year. Teachers will use this information to assist them with the construction of the new classes.

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Please note that every child is guaranteed at least one friend that they will be placed with. However, we cannot guarantee that they will have all 5 of their preferences in their class as there are a number of factors involved when constructing classes.

We are all excited about our upcoming inaugural Saltwater Performing Arts Concert and Carnivale. It is my absolute pleasure to present to you the fantastic works and collaboration of the college learners and educators alike. I am so proud of the students' efforts and commend them on their dedication, persistence and commitment in attending numerous hours of rehearsals to deliver this performance which I'm sure will be of the highest quality, one that will set the benchmark for years to come. I would also like to make a special mention and thank our Performing Arts Directors, Michael Lapina and Phil Haddad for sharing their expertise and working tirelessly to guide our students through their first performance.

I would also like to thank our parent community for supporting our school events, especially with the upcoming 'Sakura' concert. Your support ensures that we uphold a strong community spirit, a sense of inclusion and a positive and caring environment for all. We have now sold over 300 tickets. For those who have not yet purchased a ticket, it is highly recommended that you do so by Tuesday 26th of November. This will ensure that we have enough seating to accommodate everyone on the night.

The most rewarding part of my job is when I get visits from the children in my office either to greet me or with ideas about initiatives that they wish to implement at our school. A few months ago, Hunter and Abdallah from 6A came to see me with an idea to run a robotics and coding club for students at lunchtime. These boys have not only run a very popular and successful lunchtime program for students but last week they also presented a professional development session to the staff to teach them about the implementation of robotics and coding in the classroom. I would like to congratulate and commend both boys for their courage, persistence and commitment in making this initiative a highly successful one. I have also had many other students who have come to see me with some lunch time club ideas for 2020, such as a drawing club and a Lego club, just to name a few.

In amongst this, some students have come to see me with their ideas for taking action that is directly linked to their Unit of Inquiry, such as the recent free dress day where the students in Year 5 connected with Swinburne University and International Needs Australia to raise funds for the 'SHE' initiative which directly works with women and children globally to implement innovative projects that change lives. Opportunities like these are very important to enhance student voice, agency and leadership as they improve student engagement, well-being and achievement outcomes. When learning is purposeful, in context and has an audience, students feel empowered and take ownership for their learning and make connections to the world around them. Thank you to our parent community who support these children with their actions as they are empowered to leap in and make meaningful decisions and take action along their journey of learning.

I would like to congratulate Ryan Yang from 4B for his amazing results in the Australian Maths Trust Competition. Ryan was awarded the 'PRIZE' award out of 300 students across his cohort, in our region. Congratulations Ryan! We are very proud of you.

Jackie Daniali
Principal



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2020 Prep Student Transition Sessions

Congratulations to all of our 2020 Preps (and their parents) on being brave risk-takers during their first transition session in their new, big school last week. Our nurturing teachers and helpful Year 6 student leaders went above and beyond to ensure our new students and their families felt welcome and supported. It was wonderful to see all the happy, smiling faces of the new Preps (and their parents!) as they walked out of their transition session with much excitement and eagerness for the next one!

Thank you to all the families who stayed for the information session, it was great meeting you and chatting with you after the information session.

Our next transition sessions are as follows (9:30am-11:30am):

Please make your way to the gymnasium to sign your child in and collect their name badge prior to being escorted to their classroom.

Tuesday 3 December	Wednesday 4 December	Thursday 5 December
- Prep A (Red)	- Prep D (Red)	- Prep G (Yellow)
- Prep B (Blue)	- Prep E (Blue)	- Prep H (Green)
- Prep C (Yellow)	- Prep F (Yellow)	- Prep I (Blue)
	- Prep K (Green)	- Prep J (Red)

For newly enrolled families, we will mail you confirmation of class, teacher and transition date next week.

Just a reminder, if you have not already done so, to please book in for the 2020 Assessments via the link below.

2020 Assessments:

Prep students will not attend school on Wednesdays in February. On these days, we would like parents to book in for state mandated Literacy and Numeracy Assessments. These assessments will take an hour and parents are to drop their children off for their assessment and then pick them up at the end of the session. Please supply your child with a water bottle and a snack for this session. Parents are required to book for these assessments via www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the code: **bwh93**

1. Enter your details
2. Choose your teacher/class
3. Select your preferred date and time

Regards,
Gramatiki Alexiou and Ang Bervanakis

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Three-Way Student-led Conferences

We will be holding our three-way, student-led conferences on the 9th of December from 3:30pm – 7:30pm and on the 10th of December from 5pm- 7:30pm (Years 3 and 6 will start from 2:00pm).

The aim of 3-way conferences is so that our students are given increasing responsibilities and ownership for their learning and develop skills to communicate and articulate their growth and achievements over the past semester. Parents are required to book for these interviews via www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the code: **9msez**

Conferences will run for 10 minutes and will be held in your child's classroom. A waiting area has been designated for parents inside the classroom so that you aren't waiting outside. Please note that it is crucial for every family to make a booking and to participate and support their child's learning. The teachers and the children have spent hours preparing for these conferences, therefore it would be a shame if we let our children down.



The image shows a screenshot of the schoolinterviews.com.au website interface. At the top, there is a green box with a downward arrow labeled 'School event code' and a text input field containing '9msez' with a 'Go' button. To the right, a white box contains the text: 'Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.' Below this, there are three numbered steps: 1. 'Enter your details' (with a person icon), 2. 'Choose teachers' (with a teacher icon), and 3. 'Choose times' (with a calendar icon showing times 4:30, 4:40, and 4:50). At the bottom, a blue envelope icon is next to a text box that reads: 'When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.'

The specialist team will be available on these days to speak to parents should they wish to communicate with them. No booking is required for any member of the specialist team. The specialists will be available in their designated classroom areas: Michael Lapina (Music), Kelleigh Evans (P.E) and Phill Haddad (Dance) will be located in the Performing Arts building. Nelson Pasten (Spanish) will be in the Art room along with Maria Pandazolous (Art).

Regards,

Ang Bervanakis
Assistant Principal

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Writing Enrichment

The Year 1 and 2 students have been innovating on the mentor text, 'I Wish I had a Pirate Suit' by Pamela Allen. The students have been creatively adapting the text to add their own flair whilst still maintaining the structure and features of the mentor text. Fleur from 2B would like to share her published writing piece:

I Wish I Had a Unicorn Costume By Fleur D'sa 2B

I wish I had a unicorn costume.

Sienna has a unicorn costume with a golden horn.
I wish I had one too.

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She is the mighty princess with a crown and a magical wand too.

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She is the princess and I am the grass she dances on.

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She is the princess and I am her servant.

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She is the boss of the Unicorn Islands.

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She says unicorns can curse you and vanish you too!

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She says she's got more magic too.

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She's eating all the fairy floss and there's nothing I can do!

Sienna has a unicorn costume.
She's going to make me jump out of a cloud to feed a lion cub or two!

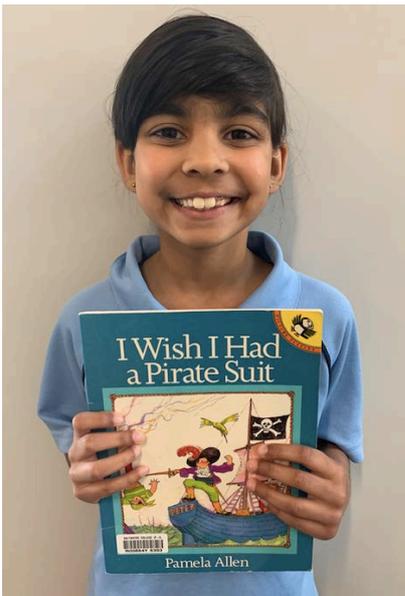
I wish I had a unicorn costume. Sienna has a unicorn costume. She made me get some candy to put inside her stew.
She said I should go in with it and mix it all up too!

That was a long time ago, when I was only three. Now I've grown bigger and the unicorn costume fits
ME!

Now I've got a unicorn costume, although it's not quite new. I could be the Unicorn Princess with a golden horn too.

This time I could be Queen but I don't have a pot mixer because.....

Now, Sienna is a fairy princess and the little kitten is... GUESS WHO?



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CHESS NEWS

We are very pleased to announce that the Saltwater Chess Team, which recently placed second in the NSC Chess Primary Open State Semi-Finals in October, has gone on to finish equal 3rd in the State Super Finals.

The team members, Max K, Ryan Y, Angus W and Max W, all of whom have been coached previously by coach Phil and have been training at Saltwater College after-school chess club weekly since Term 3. They competed against the best primary school aged players from 49 Victorian schools.

To qualify for the NSC finals, each player had to individually qualify in the semi-finals, so it was a fantastic achievement for the whole team to be qualified. It was a great team effort that saw them finish in the top three. We will be aiming to improve on that next year!

Congratulations Chess Team! You guys are awesome!

In addition to all of the above the school chess team has also qualified to play in the Kids Unlimited - Primary Open National Chess Finals and will compete against the top schools from the whole of Australia and New Zealand on December 2nd and 3rd. We wish them the best and hope for a similar positive result.

Enrolments for 2020 Chess Program at Saltwater College will be opening this week.

Regards,
Phil Minichelli
CHESS ACADEMY



Student Comic

Riley Witcher from 4A would like to share another comic he has created.



INTRODUCING NEWLY APPOINTED STAFF

Dear Saltwater Community,

Hello my name is Priya Marathe and I am excited to introduce myself as one of the newly appointed classroom teachers at Saltwater College P-9 for 2020. I have been a teacher for 3 years and prior to that I have worked in Early Childhood Education for 7 years. I was born in India and migrated to Australia when I was seventeen to study Early Childhood Education (ECE) at University. I found the passion of working with young children after my first placement in a childcare setting, and upon completion of ECE degree, I completed my further studies in Primary Teaching. For the past 3 years, I have worked at Hamlyn Banks Primary School in Geelong, as a teacher in a grade one-two composite class. I have enjoyed working at Hamlyn Banks as it has provided me with opportunities to learn and grow as a quality teacher. I consider myself as a life-long learner and have a desire to explore 21st century learning opportunities and embed these in my everyday classroom practices. I believe every student has the right to quality education in a safe and inclusive learning environment, which promotes high expectations and prepares students for the future challenges. I value creating strong lasting partnerships between the school and home, and work collaboratively with parents to support student learning. I am excited to be given the opportunity to work at Saltwater P-9 College and feel honoured and privileged to be part of the students' learning journey from prep to year 9.



I look forward to meeting the Saltwater Community, and eager to start my journey with you all in 2020.

Regards,

Priya Marathe



Dear Saltwater Community,

My name is Paul McArthur and I have teaching locally in Point Cook for 15 years, with a two-year stint teaching in the UK. The thing I enjoy most about teaching is building strong relationships with my students. I have two young primary aged children and a wife who is also a teacher. We have two pets, a cat called Arty and a dog called Nacho.

My interests include, traveling, reading, playing guitar, sport and of course spending quality time with my family. I love football season and have been an Essendon member for the past few years. I currently coach my son's under 8's basketball team at Eagle Stadium. I look forward to meeting you all soon!

Regards,
Paul McArthur

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



Have you got your tickets to our Inaugural Performing Arts Concert – Sakura?

The students have been working so hard and the show is quickly shaping up to be an event that you won't want to miss.

Each student has stepped up to give everything of themselves, showing their strength and vulnerability as they express themselves through song and dance.

Staff and other students who have witnessed parts of the rehearsal process are commenting on how exciting and emotion-filled the performances are.

On Monday, our stage will be installed, and the students' excitement will escalate to the next level, as they start to experience what the actual performance will be like, with lights, smoke and sounds.

All we're missing now is you... the Audience!

Get your tickets fast... You won't want to miss out on this event!

Regards,
Michael Lapina and Phill Haddad
Performing Arts Directors

NEWS FROM PREP

Hi Prep Parents/Guardians,

We hope everyone is well and having a great week. Wow! We can't believe we're moving into week eight next week already. A few mixed emotions as the year comes to an end with only four weeks remaining. We're super proud of our Prep cohort and everything they're achieving. Every day they amaze us with their creative minds and ability to succeed. We look forward to pushing them to their fullest potential to conclude the year.

Kinder Transition

It's been extremely busy in the Prep cohort. Last week the Prep teachers had their first Prep transition and welcomed next year's Prep students with beaming smiles. The kinder students engaged in a range of activities including developmental play, story time and a snake craft activity. They had a tour of the school and a play on the playground. It was lovely meeting our next year's Prep students and we can't wait to welcome them back again for our second Prep Transition Day in week nine.

Prep Swimming

This is just a reminder that Prep swimming begins on Monday 25th November.

It would be helpful if you could please ensure your child wears their bathers to school on swimming days, underneath their sports uniform. Make sure all your children's clothes, socks and shoes are labelled. Please send a pair of thongs or slippers to make it easier for them to get dressed (they will put their thongs on prior to walking over to the pool), so please **do not** send them to school in thongs.

In a **separate small bag** could you please pack them:

- a pair of underpants
- a towel
- sandals or slides/thongs (to wear to and from the pool)
- a plastic bag to put wet bathers and towel in

The children will be walking to and from the swimming pool in groups with their teacher.



Planting

The Prep classes have begun planting in the vegetable garden with their buddies. They are really excited to see the seeds grow as the students have focused on living things in their previous Unit of Inquiry. It is important students learn how to grow their own vegetables as it will encourage them to make positive choices with their food. Students will be able to share their new gardening skills with their friends and family.

Regards,
The Prep Team



NEWS FROM YEAR ONE



Dear Year One Families,

Swimming was an absolute hit! The Year One students who participated were principled and respectful walking to and from the centre and all had so much fun in the water! In the short two weeks of the program, the students participated in learning a range of swimming styles such as freestyle, backstroke, torpedo, diving and numerous fun games.

In Reading this week, the Year Ones are looking at various comprehension strategies to understand a story more in depth. They have learnt and been practising to compare and contrast the story to their own life and respond to prompts about the book, by writing an answer in full sentences.

In Writing, the students are continuing on with narrative writing and have been looking at character description and the setting of stories. They are beginning to plan their very own fairytale, using their knowledge of characters and settings. The students will also decide what problem their fairytale character is going to face in their story, as well as how they are going to solve the problem. We can't wait to read the finished products!

In Maths this week, the students are re-visiting money as we identified this is a skill that all students need to further develop. Going into next week, they will be applying their financial skills to plan either a birthday party or a Christmas list, where they will have to stick to a specific budget. The students will need to be thinkers and problem solvers as they work out what they will need to buy and add up their costs – all without going over their budget!

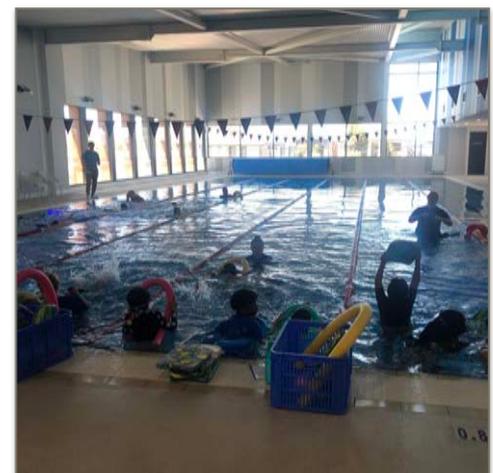
In Inquiry, we are investigating our last Unit of Inquiry for the year which is, 'Families and Friends Shape our Identity'. The Year Ones are currently exploring different country's cultures, values and celebrations. They will be comparing their own life and culture to others' and looking at the similarities and differences between both.

Important Dates and Information

Performing arts concert: 27th November

- Christmas Carols: 18th December Please make sure your child is completing their homework each night, and if they have finished all their assigned tasks on Mathematics and Literacy Planet and would like some more, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. It is important that all students who have iPads bring them everyday fully charged so they can fully engage in their learning

Thanks,
The Year One Team,
Hannah Jones, Sheridan Jennings and Daina Nielsen.



NEWS FROM YEAR TWO

Dear Year Two families,



Last week the students from Year Two started their sixth and final Unit of Inquiry for the year. As part of their provocation, students were shown a photo of a tree growing out of a rock; which not only sparked their interest about the upcoming inquiry but also helped generate their wonderings. Through scientific experiments, the students have been exploring the process of weathering and erosion. They have examined the different causes of weathering and some different types of erosion. They are also recognising that weather events like rain, snow and wind are not the only factors that contribute to weathering and erosion.

In the past ten days, the Year Two students have been participating in the Swimming Program at Saltwater Swim School. The students have demonstrated how **principled** they were by walking to and from the swimming school together, that they were **risk-takers** in having a go at learning different swimming skills and are **caring** students who cooperated and looked out for each other.

In Reading, the students have been focusing on reviewing the reading strategy – making connections. As a class, we have looked at making text-to-self, text-to-text and text-to-world connections. This enabled students to relate with the text to gauge a better understanding of what they are reading. When reading with your child, be sure to ask them what kind of connections they can make with the texts they read for homework.

In Writing, the students have started exploring the features of a Procedural Text. They understand that a Procedural Text needs to have a title (how to do something), a list of materials/ingredients and an ordered method that is specific and detailed enough so that their readers can follow it.

In Mathematics, the students have continued to build upon their knowledge of collecting and analysing data. The students were inquirers as they investigated the different types of evidence of weathering in the school yard. Some of the evidence that students noticed included cracks on the road, the hills in the yard and the erosion around the school grounds. The students critically recorded this data using tally marks or pictures, based on their preferences of which data recording method worked the best for them.

Reminders:

- It's Term Four so please ensure your child/children are wearing a wide brimmed hat to school that is clearly labelled with their first and last name.
- November 27th - Performing Arts Concert: 'Sakura'. Tickets are now on sale for the carnival and the show.
- December 18th - Saltwater Christmas Carols
- Please ensure that students are reading every night and completing their homework – this enables students to consolidate what they have learnt in class.
- Students should bring fruits, snack and lunch for breaks, especially healthy food options. Students are discouraged to share their food due to allergies.

Regards,
The Year Two Team,
Andrew MacIntyre, Jessica Nardella and Lee Chong



NEWS FROM YEAR THREE

Dear Year Three families,

Who can believe we are now over half-way through Term 4? All students are busy preparing their Semester Two portfolios, ready for three-way conferences on the 9th and 10th of December. Booking details will be made available shortly. Please keep an eye on the official Saltwater Facebook page and School Box for more details.

This Friday the 22nd of November will mark the end of the Year 1-3 Swimming program. As teachers, we have been so impressed by the level of maturity and organisation students have displayed when walking to and from the pool and participating in lessons. This program has provided students with excellent swim survival skills and the essentials to have a fun and safe time in the water.

Unit of Inquiry 6:

Last week, students engaged in provocation tasks to determine their prior knowledge and gather wonderings about the unit. Each student created a person that represented their culture and values. As a class, we then created a display representing the various cultures and students' places of birth. This week, students are working on unpacking the definition of 'stories' and focusing on how stories are told through written communication. As part of this unit, as a year level, we will be exploring story-telling through Aboriginal culture. Students will then have agency over their learning by selecting a focus culture that they will explore. They will investigate how stories are told through songs, dance, art, written stories and verbal stories. Please see below some student wonderings from this unit:

-*"Why are stories so special to cultures? Why do different cultures have different stories?" – Nevaeh 3B*

-*"Why do cultures have different dances? What do the dances mean?" – Lexi 3B*

-*"I wonder what stories people tell in other cultures and if they are real or fake?" – Eva 3A*

-*"I wonder if we are still creating stories now, to be told in the future?" – MJ 3A*

Reading and Writing:

We have now started our unit on poetry in Reading and Writing. Students are beginning to develop an understanding of the different types of poems and the poetic devices. In Reading, students have been focusing on the mentor poem, 'Listen to the Rain' and interpreting the meaning of this poem as well as visualising the images the poem paints. In Writing, students have explored the poetic devices of alliteration and onomatopoeia, as tools to engage the reader and make poems come to life.

Reminders:

- Term 4** – Please ensure your child/children are wearing a wide brimmed hat to school that is clearly labelled with their first and last name. We also encourage students to wear sunscreen for optimal sun protection.
- Friday 22nd of November** – Week 6-7 homework due.
- November 27th** – Performing Arts Concert 'Sakura' Tickets are now on sale for the show and the pre-show Carnivale. Be sure to get your tickets!
- December 9th – 10th** – Three-way Conferences
- December 18th** – Saltwater Christmas Carols

Kind regards,
The Year 3 Team



NEWS FROM YEAR FOUR

It has been a busy few weeks in Year 4. Here is a snapshot of the learning we have been doing.

Student Initiatives and Actions

Over the past few weeks, many students across the Year 4 team have been taking action with their learning. This has included ways in which they feel they can best demonstrate their knowledge, or actions they want to take to make a difference in our community. Some of the ways they have been demonstrating this are:

Minecraft Worlds: Several groups of students have created 'Minecraft worlds' where they have shown the effects of climate change. These groups have been presenting to other classes and holding lunchtime clubs to share their knowledge and worlds to teach people about the importance of action for the environment.

Walk or Ride to School: Olivia Chapman (4A) presented at assembly in week 7, where she encouraged students to choose to either walk or ride to school. She gave several reasons as to why this is important, such as stopping the rise of sea levels, and reducing the amount of carbon dioxide released into the air.

Comic Book Club: Amelie, Max and Demien have shown wonderful initiative and began their own 'comic book club' that has started and runs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at snack time. Well done to these students for being knowledgeable and creative and sharing their expertise with others. We encourage students with an interest in comics (or those wanting to learn something new) to attend and join the fun.

As we work towards the end of the school year, we are finishing off with a new, exciting Unit of Inquiry. In Year 4, students are currently investigating the Transdisciplinary Theme of, 'How We Express Ourselves' using the Central Idea, '**Indigenous groups express themselves through patterns, visual arts, and dance.**'

We are inquiring into:

- How stories connect people through art forms.
- The importance of individual action and character.
- How successful artists from the past have influenced current trends.

Reminders:

- Please ensure that students are reading each night for 20 minutes and completing their homework. You can ask them questions about the text they are reading, or have a discussion with them from time to time.

Thank you and kind regards,
The Year 4 Team
Brendan Howarth & Karen Costabile



NEWS FROM YEAR FIVE

We have had a wonderful couple of weeks of learning in the year 5 classrooms. During this time the students have been working on their knowledge of poetry and angles.

Unit of Inquiry 6:

How We Express Ourselves

We have been busy working collaboratively on our last Inquiry unit for the year. The Central Idea reflected 'How the arts challenge and reflect society'. Expanding on our student wonderings, students have been inquiring into relevant social issues and looking into the many artistic forms and how they might be interpreted.

Self-Management:

During this unit, students have been working on their self-management and critical thinking skills. Looking into how artists express social issues, we have been evaluating issues, forming decisions and considering these artists ideas from multiple perspectives. Moving forward, students will have the opportunity to take agency over their learning in the coming weeks as they work towards expressing their emotion through their own poetry writing piece. It will be displayed alongside photographs from our visual communication excursion to the city. Invitations will be sent out very soon, stay tuned.

Numeracy:

We have continued to take ownership over our learning whilst working hard towards achieving our learning goals. During this unit we have been focusing on angles, to deepen our understanding of angles we have been using protractors. Students have been inquiring into obtuse, acute and right angles as they prepare to show their learning in the form of a floor plan.

Year 5 awards:

Congratulations to the recipients this week: Ollie Gercovich and Ava Savage.

Reminders:

- Please try to ensure that your devices come to school fully charged so there is no interruption during learning time.
- Year 4/5 interschool sport training every Friday morning.
- Reminder that students need to bring their hats during Term 4 for recess and lunchtime.

Regards,
The Year 5 Team,
Todd Robinson and Sarah Grenfell

NEWS FROM YEAR SIX

Apple Store: Highpoint

Last week students from Year 6 attended the Apple Store where they engaged in a series of workshops targeted towards 'Photography'. Right from the beginning, the apple staff were incredible, greeting all students with an applause as they entered the Apple Store much to the embarrassment of the Year 6 students.

The workshop titled 'Photo Lab: Disrupting the Portrait, co-created with Christopher Anderson' provided students with the opportunity to rethink the subject, obstruct the lens and stylise their shot to create unexpected portraits. All students were given an iPhone 11 and were instantly amazed with the newest features and functions of the iPhone as they learnt the essential photos skills, experimented with portraiture and broke the rules to create more of an artistic photo.

The workshop lasted approximately 1.5 hours and concluded with students uploading their files to their MacBook's and making edits to their original shots. Some students used the function of 'highlight' whilst others used 'saturation'. Overall this was an incredible experience for the Year 6 students and I am pleased to say that we will be visiting the Apple Store more frequently next year as they offer arrange of workshops for FREE. Some of these are:

- Code with Apple held between December 1 and 15.
- Coding Skills: Getting started with Swift Playgrounds
- Coding Skills: Sensor Arcade Challenge
- App Skills: Making an App Prototype with Keynote
- Product Skills: iPhone and iPad Part 1 and 2

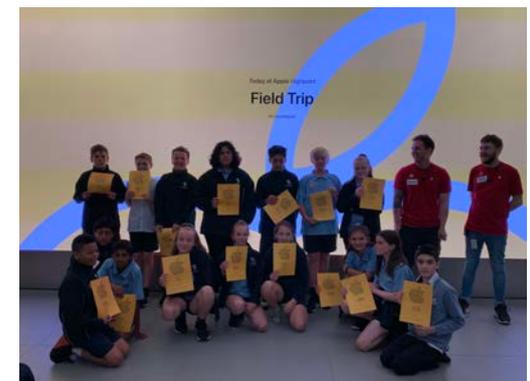
Literacy Planet: Student Comprehension Reflections

During an intense reading comprehension workshop, students read 3 articles titled: 'Good Health Advice', 'Tom's Trickery' and 'Gather ye Rosebuds'.

Below are two reflections written by Tanveer Ahluwalia, highlighting the use of Tier 2 and 3 words. The purpose of this task was to assess the students ability to synthesise the information read when preparing a summary.

"Mischievous Tom Sawyer continues playing pranks on his Aunt Polly. When she was calling Tom whilst cleaning with the broom, he wouldn't come. In fact, she had to yell numerous times before the boy turned up. He had jam surrounding his lips, giving away that he was up to some mischief. In anger and frustration, Aunt Polly starts scolding him, however he makes her look the other way, before escaping out the door.

"Gather Ye Rosebuds was a poem written by Robert Herrick and he reflects on the value of time as it is passing. Targeted towards young women, it advises them to marry at an early age, before both time and beauty fades away. In his opinion youth was the most important time of anyone's life, filled with the greatest opportunities one could imagine. As time passes, humans grow older and weak, similarly to flowers. Challenging time is the greatest obstacle one could ever imagine".



NEWS FROM YEAR SIX

Prep Buddy Classes

Last week the Year 6 students worked closely with their Prep C and Prep G buddies to plant some vegetables in the 'Vegetable Garden'. The prep students all wore gloves and used mini-shovels to dig small holes to which they planted; lettuce, wheatgrass, parsley and chives. We look forward to watching these grow, so we can use them in our Food Technology classes.



Grade 6 Graduation

The Year 6 Graduation is quickly approaching. Official invitations were sent home last week to all parents with specific event details. The Graduation is going to be held on December 11th. Students are encouraged to arrive at school at 5:30pm where they will be offered dinner. At 6:15pm, parents will be invited to take their seat in the Gymnasium where the Graduation will be held. The official ceremony will begin at 6:30pm and will feature many performances from our Year 6 students along with speeches, certificates and scholarships. The ceremony will conclude around 8:00pm and students will be ushered into the Performing Arts rooms where they will enjoy a disco. Parents will remain in the Gymnasium and enjoy the students Visual Communications exhibition where drinks and canapés will be served. The Graduation event will conclude at 9:00pm.



Regards, Michael Nicolaidis
Year 6 Classroom Teacher