



*George unveiling the Harmony Day collaborative art project, WheelTalk, working with our buddies on Harmony Day*

We have been incredibly proud of the Year 6 team and how well they have settled in to their role of school leaders. Despite it being a relatively short term, much has been achieved: swimming lessons and the Bentleigh District competition; assisting the Preps with settling in to school routines; summer inter-school sport; guest speakers and incursions; our first unit of inquiry that explored how 'celebrating our similarities and differences can strengthen communities'; establishing the Year 6 Leadership Teams; Harmony Day and of course a lot of learning in the classroom! The students have produced an excellent Summative Task display to celebrate the 'Humans of Murrumbidgee' and we encourage you all to wander through the upstairs corridors to enjoy their work.

## Our current Unit of Inquiry

**Transdisciplinary theme:** How we express ourselves.

**Central idea:** Media has the power to influence thinking and behaviour.

**Key concepts:** Function, Perspective, Responsibility

**Related concepts:** Truth, Judgment, Bias, Ethics

**An inquiry into:**

- Strategies and devices used to influence the viewer
- The influence of media on individuals and societies
- The responsibility of the media and its viewers

If you, or someone you know, works or has experience in these areas, please get in touch. We'd love for you to talk to the students.

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## Coming up in the classroom...

Throughout this unit of inquiry, the students will be focusing on the following:

### Maths

Students will be extending their skills in multiplication, division and the rules of BODMAS. They will conduct chance experiments and continue to explore data and the ways it can be represented.

### Reading & Writing

In both reading and writing, targeted instruction will be given in the genre of persuasive texts (advertising, expositions, opinion pieces).

Students will employ a range of comprehension skills when reading such as making connections, deciphering between fact and opinion and identifying the main idea and supporting details.

Students will continue to explore sentence structure, higher-level punctuation such as commas and semi-colons, vocabulary choices and other grammatical features.

### Home Learning

Each week, students will continue to choose six words that focus on a spelling pattern each and four words from their own writing. Please encourage them to complete their 'look, say, cover, write, check' each night and ensure that they have their spelling attempts corrected.

In order for students to further their comprehension skills, it is important for them to be reading books that are 'just right' for them. We recommend that they read every day and for a minimum of 20 minutes.

Maths Mate will continue to be used as a way of revising and consolidating skills in all areas of maths, including problem solving.

Students will also use home learning time to finish or catch up on missed tasks, or publish written pieces.

### Upcoming Events

29th April - End of Term 1, 2:30pm finish

20th April - Media incursion

23rd-24th April - Curriculum Days

25th April - ANZAC Day

26th April - Japanese incursion

8th May - Bentleigh District Cross Country

11th May - Mother's Day Stall

### Winter Sport Training

Training commences at 8:15am on the following days:

Monday/Wednesday - Cross Country

Tuesday - Sof-crosse, Netball

Thursday - Rounders, Soccer



6W dressed up for Harmony Day



6M dressed up for Harmony Day

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## Connecting the PYP and home

Throughout this unit of inquiry, students will be focusing on developing particular attitudes and traits of the learner profile.

### Attitudes

The attitudes we are looking at are *independence* and *enthusiasm*.

#### Independence

Students who demonstrate independence are able to think and act independently, make their own judgements based on reasoned principles and defend their judgements.

How can you help to develop students who show Independence at home?

- Have your child participate in household chores, such as vacuuming, dusting, and washing dishes
- Teach your child to make at least part of their own breakfast and lunch
- Encourage your child to complete their home learning tasks, or times table revision, without being reminded
- Teach your child to think independently about commercials and advertisements aimed at children.

#### Enthusiasm

Students who demonstrate ENTHUSIASM enjoy learning.

- Encourage your child to share what they have been learning about.

### Learner Profile

This unit of inquiry will be providing students with the opportunity to further develop their abilities to be reflective, communicators and open-minded.

#### Reflective

Students will reflect on their learning and knowledge of persuasive devices and techniques in order to identify what strategies the media has used and how they might influence the view.

At home:

- Encourage your child to reflect on their learning and achievements and set goals.

#### Communicators

Students will be focussing on expressing ideas creatively using a variety of communication modes.

At home:

- Encourage your child to explain their thinking and answer when solving a mathematical problem.

#### Open-Minded

Students will be developing their willingness to seek out and evaluate a range of points of view.

At home:

- Encourage your child to listen to others and engage in conversation on a range of topics.



