

## GRADE 4 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

We would like to congratulate the students on a fantastic start to the year. They have had such a positive attitude towards their learning and have settled in very well. We have concluded our first unit where students inquired into 'How we organize ourselves.' The children participated in a wonderful hands on incursion called 'Democracy and Me'. They were involved in a number of role-plays which enabled them to learn procedures related to making rules and laws. They participated in an election and voting process and conducted a mock local council meeting.

Our next unit of inquiry is 'How we express ourselves'. The central idea is *Creative techniques are used to present an idea and engage an audience*. Students will focus on the following lines of inquiry:

- The impact of creative techniques on the viewer/audience.
- How language is used to form an image in the reader's mind.
- Effective oral presentation skills.

The PYP attitudes that will be covered in this unit are confidence and creativity. At home, you may wish to continue encouraging your child to take chances, try new things and speak about a topic or their feelings using descriptive language. Your child may wish to explore their creativity at home by picking an emotion and using colours to create an image or picture that expresses that emotion.

### Literacy

In reading, students will be focusing on analyzing texts by looking at the author's craft, author's purpose and inferring character feelings and motives. Analysing these techniques will allow students to understand how language is used to form an image in the reader's mind. When analyzing characters in a text, students will learn to identify character traits and explore how the character develops throughout the story. In writing, students will be analysing the language used in poetry and narratives. They will consider the effective techniques used by authors to make their writing engaging for a chosen audience. Students will then have the opportunity to create their own poems and stories using this knowledge.

### Numeracy

In mathematics, students will move on to developing their understanding of subtraction and multiplication. This year, there is a big focus on learning multiplication facts. We encourage parents to begin quizzing their children on these number facts and continue doing so for the remainder of the year. Students will also be learning about 'time'. They are learning how to read time to the minute on analogue clocks. They will then move on to using their knowledge of telling the time to work out worded problems and answer questions related to reading timetables. Students will continue to develop their problem solving skills as they explore multiple ways to solve worded problems.

### Important dates: Term 2

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of April: Term 2 begins

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of April: Excursion to the National Gallery of Victoria: Emotions of Art

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of April and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of April: Curriculum Days

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of May: 4K and 4M Swimming

