

Team 5/6 Newsletter

Term 3, 2026

START UP PROGRAM

During the first few days of Term 3, students will revisit key elements of our Start Up Program, designed to re-establish a positive, safe and supportive learning environment. This program supports students to reconnect with one another, reflect on their learning behaviours and prepare for a successful term ahead. Students will focus on:

- Revisiting our school rights, responsibilities and values, with a particular focus on Responsibility and what this looks, sounds and feels like in our school community
- Exploring the connection between responsibility and Care for Country, including revisiting the Eastern Kulin Nation Seasonal Calendar with a focus on the Guling season and committing to bringing waste free food to school
- Revisiting the Zones of Regulation, with a particular focus on developing calming strategies to support wellbeing and readiness to learn
- Exploring Respectful Relationships, with a focus on understanding stress, identifying stressors and developing strategies to manage challenges
- Building eSafety knowledge, including exploring privacy, online safety and the concept of 'click bait'
- Reflecting on our Learning Assets, considering what they look, sound and feel like in action, and setting an individual goal linked to a learning asset they would like to strengthen

INTERRELATE - MOVING INTO THE TEEN YEARS

As part of our focus on student wellbeing and respectful relationships, Team 5/6 students will participate in the Interrelate: Moving into the Teen Years program. This program supports students as they transition into adolescence, exploring topics such as relationships, identity, emotions, change and respectful communication in a safe and supportive environment.

The program will take place on:

- **Thursday August 6th**
- **Thursday August 13th**
- **Thursday August 20th**

More information, including the cost associated with this program, will be communicated via Compass.

ENGLISH

Our mentor text this term is *Girl on Wire* by Lucy Estela. This beautifully written story is a simple yet uplifting allegory about a young girl learning to build her self-esteem and overcome the worries many children experience as they grow. Students will explore how authors and illustrators communicate meaning through visual literacy, including colour, imagery, symbols and multimodal elements. Students will investigate:

- Character, setting, plot and theme
- The use of symbolism and imagery
- Personification and how it can bring ideas to life
- How authors communicate messages and perspectives

Through Book Club, students will work in small groups with a novel selected to support their individual learning needs. They will develop comprehension strategies including making predictions, exploring characterisation, considering social and historical contexts, summarising and sequencing events.

In speaking and listening, students will continue participating in both formal and informal discussions. They will also work towards formally presenting their findings from their science investigations as part of our Integrated Studies unit, *Journey to Discovery*. This will support students to develop confidence when presenting, as well as strengthen their use of scientific language and subject-specific vocabulary.

In writing, students will explore:

- Explanatory writing
- Written reflections
- Scientific reports
- Multimodal texts incorporating personification
- SMART Spelling

Students will also continue developing their understanding of grammar and language through a focus on:

- Scientific language and subject-specific vocabulary
- Evaluative, factual and classifying adjectives
- Expanding noun groups using adjectives and prepositional phrases
- Using possessive apostrophes in proper nouns
- Identifying and using appositives to combine sentences
- Strengthening descriptive language choices
- Using dialogue effectively within writing

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MATHEMATICS

Students will explore a range of mathematical concepts this term, developing their understanding, fluency and problem-solving skills.

Learning areas include:

- Algebra
- Decimals, fractions and percentages
- Additive thinking when working with fractions and decimals
- Multiplicative thinking
- Space
- Measurement, including area and perimeter
- Angles
- Time

Students will continue to develop their ability to explain their mathematical thinking, choose appropriate strategies and apply their knowledge to real-world problems.

TEAM 5/6 SPORT

Team 5/6 Sport takes place weekly on Friday mornings.

There will be no Interschool Sport during Term 3. Instead, students will participate in a range of sporting activities designed to build skills, teamwork, cooperation and enjoyment of physical activity.

Important sporting events this term include:

- **Team 5/6 Hooptime (basketball tournament for all students): Tuesday August 11th**
- **District Athletics (selected students): Wednesday September 2nd**

Please ensure students come dressed appropriately for physical activity on Sport days.

INTEGRATED CURRICULUM – DISCOVERY (STEM FOCUS)

This term, students will explore our STEM-focused unit, Journey to Discovery. Through this unit, students will develop their scientific inquiry skills by investigating questions, making predictions, conducting experiments and analysing evidence. Students will explore scientific concepts including:

- Electrical circuits
- Light pollution and refraction
- Seasons
- States of matter

A key focus of this unit will be developing students' understanding of how scientists make discoveries. Students will work collaboratively to design and conduct their own scientific investigation, ensuring they consider fair testing, safety and accurate data collection.

Essential questions guiding our learning include:

- What questions might scientists have posed to make discoveries?
- How can we develop fair tests to answer scientific questions?

As part of this unit, students will participate in a hands on Science Incursion on **Thursday July 30th**.

HOME LEARNING

Students are expected to:

- Read for 30 minutes each night to build fluency, vocabulary and comprehension
- Practise weekly spelling words each night to strengthen spelling patterns and accuracy
- Complete one activity from the Maths Grid each week, sent home at the beginning of the term
- Complete My Numeracy Tasks on Essential Assessment (optional)
- For students who are still learning to confidently recall multiplication facts up to 10×10 , regular practice at home is strongly encouraged
- As part of our focus on personal responsibility we will continue to use the diary as a tool to build organisational skills