

What's been happening in Grade 5?

Having finished our 'How We Organise Ourselves' (Government and Law-Making) Unit of Inquiry, we ended on an exciting note with our Grade 5 Election Campaigns!

The students formed political parties based on issues they felt passionately about – there were parties about the health-care system, human rights, animal rights, improving the economy and sustainability.

The students wrote up their policies, and created an advertising campaign with political posters. They delivered a group speech in front of all of Grade 5! A representative of the Victorian Electoral Commission helped us with our preferential voting, and the Fit Fun Party won! Well done to Nick C., Nick A., Liam, Andrew, Lochie L. and Will N., as well as all the other sensational political parties who did such an fantastic job in pursuing their passions and presenting to the cohort.

During this unit, we also went to the Treasury Building and to State Parliament. We were fascinated by parliament, in particular, and we were lucky enough to have a guide to show us around. It was amazing to see how the politicians spoke to each other in the chamber, too – they were pretty fired up! The excursion was an excellent way for us to see how laws are made in parliament.

Grade 5 Newsletter

Term 2 - July, 2018



Some of the political campaign posters for our 'How We Organise Ourselves' (Government and Law-Making unit).

Our new Unit of Inquiry is based around the idea of **Human Rights**, it is...

An inquiry into: the history of human rights, defence and infringement of human rights, obligations as global citizens.

Central Idea: We have rights and responsibilities as global citizens.

Key concepts: Form - Students will recognise the features of human rights throughout history. Perspective - Students will understand that people will fight for and prioritise different rights for different reasons.

Responsibility - Students will understand their responsibility to be aware of human rights and treat everyone fairly and equally.

Related concepts: Rights - Students will understand the rights which every human is entitled to. Equality - Students will understand the state of being equal in status, rights or opportunities. Freedom - Students will understand that people should have the power or right to act, speak or think as they want.

Important Dates

Tuesday, 31st July – I.C.A.S.
Reading Test

Saturday, 4th August –
School Disco (5-6:30pm Prep
– 2, 7-8:45pm – Grade 3-6)

Tuesday, 28th August –
Student Led Conferences
(3:45-7:30am) (T.B.C.)

Wednesday, 19th September
– Whole School Concert
(Palais Theatre, St. Kilda)

Every Thursday until the
School Concert –
Dance Practices for all
Grade 5 classes

Learner Profile: Open Minded - Students will appreciate the rights that they enjoy, as well as show respect for the situations of others. Thinkers - Students will recognise and approach complex issues of human rights to make fair and ethical decisions. Caring - Students will show compassionate and respect towards the needs and feelings of others.

Attitudes: Empathy - Students will be able to put themselves in someone else's shoes. Tolerance - Students will be sensitive about the differences and diversity in the world and be responsive to the needs of others. Curiosity - Students will ask questions to learn more about human rights locally and globally.

Transdisciplinary Skills: Thinking - Acquisition of knowledge - Students will gain specific facts, ideas and vocabulary. Comprehension - Students will understand new material and communicate to others. Evaluation - Students will make judgements or decisions based on their new understandings. Social - Accepting responsibility - Students will be willing to share responsibility. Respecting others - Students will make decisions based on fairness and equality. Research - Collecting data - Students will gather information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. Formulating questions - Students will identify what they need to know and ask compelling and relevant questions that can be researched.

About our recent learning...

Literacy

Our current focus for writing is biographies and autobiographies, which link into our unit of inquiry. We are also using biographical texts in reading and during our literacy rotation tasks. We are discussing the difference between facts and opinions as our current reading focus. Our SMART Spelling program is thriving in our classrooms, as students have developed their skills in sounding out words and used their SMART Spelling skills to analyse each week's letter combinations.

Numeracy

Our current focus for mathematics is fractions, decimals and angles. We completed our division and multiplication units at the end of Term 2 and were impressed by the growth in the students' knowledge and skills on this topic.

Thank you for reading our Grade 5 Newsletter!
