



Term 4 Newsletter - Stage 2

Welcome back to Term 4, 2011. We hope you all had a safe and restful holiday. It's hard to believe that we are on the downhill race to 2011 already!

Stage 2 Curriculum Overview

English

Talking and Listening

Stage 2 students will undertake assessment for Semester 2 in Term 4. The topic coincides with the COGS units "Local Environments". During Term 3, the children presented their research about a major world religion.

Reading

Students are encouraged to read every day at school and also at home as part of their daily homework routine. Encouraging your child in their reading by listening to them read, discussing texts, reading to them and being seen to be reading around the home, will have a lasting positive outcome on your child's cognitive development.

Children have focussed on the Six Super Strategies (making connections, predicting, visualising, questioning, monitoring and summarising) to improve comprehension. We have been looking at National Geographic magazine as reading stimuli.

Writing

Text types continue to be taught explicitly in classrooms. In Term 4 students will focus on constructing and answering questions (interview skills) and poetry writing. The children will be identifying and experimenting with onomatopoeia and other forms of imagery in poetry.

All this will be covered as part of the COGS unit "Local Environments".

Spelling, grammar and punctuation are covered explicitly during each week. Children are tested on their knowledge of spelling words on a weekly basis. Please encourage your child to Look, Cover, Spell, Check their weekly spelling words each evening as part of their homework.

Maths

In Term 4 students will continue to learn within the five strands of mathematics. The children will focus on addition, subtraction, decimals, number patterns, measuring and recording lengths and weights, symmetry, angles and properties of 3D shapes. Mental strategies for the four operations and problem solving will be developed further.

COGs (Connected Outcome Groups)

Term 4 COGs unit is "Local Environments". In this unit the children can develop their knowledge of the built environment through the design of a development for a new area. The focus will be on observing and interpreting the environment, in terms of significance, planning and design. The impact of our interactions on different environments is considered. The HSIE component requires students to locate and map a range of places in Australia.

Sport and Fitness (PDHPE)

Stage 2 students begin Footsteps on Friday in Week 1 Term 4.

The Footsteps Program has been developed specifically for NSW Primary Schools under the PDHPE syllabus. Students have opportunities to experience several different dance styles in a single term including; hip-hop, contemporary, ballroom to modern music.

Each class will continue their year-long gymnastics program this term.

Please ensure that your child has appropriate footwear and clothing to participate in these activities.

Crunch and Sip has become a successful program, expanding to everyday last term. Please remember to pack your child's lunch box with a piece of fruit or vegetable and their water bottle to snack on during our Crunch and Sip break (10.30a.m.).

Creative and Practical Arts

Students in Stage 2 have worked hard with Ms Kay to complete artworks for the Art Show. Both individual and class artworks were on display in the hall. This term the focus will be on music in the environment. The children will explore poetry that describes the natural and built environments of their local area and use their voice, percussion and environmental sounds when performing.

Bounce Back!

BOUNCE BACK is a whole school resiliency program. Learning is focused on providing practical strategies for helping children to grow into resilient and confident young people. This term our lessons will be based on friendships, supporting each other and bullying.

Best wishes for the term,

The Stage 2 Team