The 3 Way Conferences in term two were a great opportunity to celebrate the learning and achievements of our students. We were thrilled to meet so many parents supporting their children and working in partnership with teachers. Part of the reporting process includes goal setting for semester two. Goal setting provides students with purpose and direction enabling them to set priorities and remain motivated. We encourage parents to use the language of goal setting with their children when they are completing tasks at home. It will help them be more reflective and see the purpose more clearly of what they are doing.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Our major topic for the term will be Australian History. Students will cover many aspects of the topic and will develop a better understanding of Australian history including Indigenous culture, arrival of the First Fleet and significant events in Australian history, including Federation.

Information and Communication Technologies (computers) continues to be very popular with the students. This term they will:
- create a map with coordinates using Microsoft Visio
- use drawing tool to plot paths of explorers to Australia
- use the Internet to research a famous Australian
- create a PowerPoint Presentation about a famous Australian.

Peer Support will also run this term, for some of the grade 6 and all the grade 3 students. Peer Support Leaders will be trained in week 3. There are 8 sessions planned with the grade 3 students. The first session is on Friday 3rd August. These sessions are an excellent way for the grade 6’s to develop and extend their skills in leading a group to complete set activities.

Students not participating in Peer Support, will participate in a number of different technology activities.

HOMEWORK

The new homework grid focusing on Australian History has been attached to this newsletter. Students will be asked to complete at least one activity from the assigned column each fortnight. Homework may include a specific homework sheet which revises work covered in class, learning spelling words, completing spelling and maths sheets, learning times tables, working on projects or completing literature activities begun in class. Home reading is also considered to be part of the students’ weekly homework requirements.

Reading can include books, magazines, comics and newspapers. We encourage all students to read for 15-20 minutes every day.
LITERACY

Reading: We continue to establish **Getting Knowledge Ready** as our reading focus. Students will focus on **experiences, known words, known language** and **questions** that might be answered in the text. Some students will continue to develop their verbal and written skills in paraphrasing and summarising. Most work will be completed in class but they may be required to complete some work at home to keep up to date.

Writing: This term we will focus on narrative writing, where students will write fictional stories and letter writing.

Grammar will cover:
- **colloquialisms** - where substitutions and comparisons are made to explain something e.g. ‘flat out like a lizard drinking’ means working very hard on a task
- **rhyming slang** - one part of a phrase is removed and replaced with a word that rhymes e.g. to ‘have a Captain Cook’ means to have a look.

In addition, we will focus on how to answer questions in **full sentences**, the use of **speech marks, exclamation marks, paragraphs** and selecting the **correct tense**. For example I am going to sport on Friday. We went to sport on Friday.

NUMERACY

Our number focus for this term will be on:
- solving **division** equations (dividing 4 digit numbers by 1 and 2 digits)
- representing **fractions** in visual forms, ordering fractions from smallest to largest, creating equivalent fractions and adding and subtracting fractions
- representing fractions as **decimals** (eg \( \frac{1}{2} = 0.5 \), \( \frac{1}{4} = 0.25 \))
- converting fractions and decimals to **percentages** (eg \( \frac{3}{4} = 0.75 = 75\% \)).

It is **vital** for students to continue to learn their times tables at home as this will greatly assist them with solving division equations accurately.

Measurement lessons will cover:
- **mapping** including reading coordinates and compass points
- accurately measuring the **length** of items using millimetres, centimetres and metres
- finding the **perimeter** (the length around the boundary or outside edge) and **area** (the amount of space an object covers) of given shapes.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

As usual we have many exciting events happening this term. Some of the special events include:
- Soccer Clinics (July 27\textsuperscript{th}, August 3\textsuperscript{rd} and 10\textsuperscript{th})
- Boys AFL Whittlesea Cup (Tuesday 31\textsuperscript{st} July)
- Girls AFL Whittlesea Cup (Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} August)
- Peer Support Training (Wednesday 1\textsuperscript{st} August)
- Westpac Maths Competition (Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} August)
- Peer Support Sessions begin (Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd} August)
- Multicultural Day (Olympics) (Thursday 9\textsuperscript{th} August)
- SEDA Netball Clinics (Tuesday 14\textsuperscript{th} August)
- Basketball Round Robin (Friday 17\textsuperscript{th} August)
- Book Fair (21st – 24th August)
- Choir Recording (Tuesday 21st August)
- Book Character Parade (Monday 27th August)
- GTAC Science Programme (Wednesday 29th August, 5th and 6th September)
- Maths Games Night (Wednesday 29th August)
- AFL Multicultural Programme (Friday 31st August, 7th and 14th September)
- Girls’ Soccer Tournament (Friday 31st August)
- Excursion to The Immigration Museum (Tuesday 11th September)
- Whittlesea Divisional Athletics (Wednesday 19th September)

We’re keen to begin another term of hard work and are all excited about the program we have planned for your children. Don’t forget that if you have any worries, or your circumstances change, please contact your child’s teacher to discuss it.

The 5/6 Team
Jeanette Kelm, Dimitra Vassiliou, Leo Alessi, Adrian Parisi and Pesio I’a

SPECIALISTS

ART – Karren Moncur
The Mosaic Pots activity had been put on hold as Bunnings had promised us a donation as soon as they had done their stock take. The Art program has been given 25 pots, tiles, glue and grout. Thank you Bunnings! The pots will now be decorated and will be a terrific addition to our school grounds and gardens. The children will also create constructions based on the Olympics. They will join rolls of paper together to make athletes and buildings as well as the torch and cauldron. The children will further develop their painting skills at the end of term three.

MUSIC – Brad Jones
In Music this term, the grade 5/6 students will be focusing on drama and performance. The students will learn about the different techniques used in drama and will put many of these into practice in a variety of different classroom settings. Students will be involved in presenting a theatrical production to an audience later on in the term.

PHYS/ED – Lara Arsana
In Term 3, the children in Grade 5/6 will be participating in a range of activities that are designed to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills and Sport Specific Skills. They will begin the term with a Basketball SEPEP program (Sport Education in Physical Education Programs) where they will experience organising their own competition, keeping track of ladders, videoing games etc. They will then participate in a Soccer unit where they will have the opportunity to complete some ‘Peer Teaching’ and they will end the term with a ‘Movement to Music’ unit, that will explore a variety of dance styles, including Zumba, a special ‘Michael Jackson’ dance week and creative dance. Grade 5/6 children will also have an opportunity to participate in extracurricular sports events; ‘Hoop Time’ Basketball; Friday 17th August and Girls Soccer; Friday 31st August. All children will participate in 3 weeks of SEDA Soccer clinics and a 5 week AFL Multicultural Program, run by the Collingwood FC which will be run at no cost to the students.