Welcome back to our first school week of 2015. We hope all our families have enjoyed a pleasant and safe summer holiday. We have many exciting activities planned for the students this year and it should be a fun time for everyone.

The teachers in the 5/6 team this year are:

Lauren Herbert Room 17  Dimitra Vassiliou Room 21
Natalie Iverson Room 19  Angela Pobjoy/Ruth Lanigan Room 22

Term One is going to be very busy with testing, Interschool Sport, ASP and Camp. There will also be lots of learning happening! Many of our grade five students find the move to the upper area of the school very challenging. There is extra homework to complete and students are expected to complete more work in class. If you feel your child is not coping, or feeling stressed in any way at school, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher to make an appointment for a chat.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Friday 13 February  Interschool Sports / ASP starts
- Monday 16 February  Wednesday 18 February School Camp (Lady Northcote)
- Monday 22 February  Meet the teacher Interviews (3:40 – 8:00 pm)
- Tuesday 23 February  Meet the teacher Interviews (3:40 – 6:00 pm)
- Friday 27 March  Last Day of Term 1- students finish at 1:30pm

LITERACY

Our main focus for writing this term will be to continue working on enhancing our sentences with rich vocabulary, using figurative language to further develop sentences and extending into paragraphs. The children will be involved in writing a number of pieces using all the strategies covered, including complex and compound sentences.

Our reading program will centre around Literature Boxes that focus on improving comprehension strategies:

- main Idea
- sequencing
- compare and contrast
- fact and opinion.

Students will read books suited to their ability and answer questions that enhance their understanding of the texts.

In grammar we will focus on:

- using rich descriptive language
what makes a great sentence?
proof reading and editing.

NUMERACY
Main areas of study in Mathematics this term will be:

- correct formal algorithm layout for addition and subtraction
- rules of how to round and apply it to estimation
- identify unit fractions and place them on a number line: show understanding of fractions by adding and subtracting same denominators
- use knowledge of times tables to understand factors: identify and understand properties of prime and composite numbers
- identify, continue and create number patterns using addition and subtraction
- identify and interpret different data displays.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
Our topic for term one is focused on the chemical sciences, ‘What’s the matter?’
Through hands on investigations, students explore the properties of solids, liquids and gases. They will plan and conduct a number of investigations of how properties of materials change with temperature.
The students will:

- classify substances according to their observable properties and behaviours
- list the observable properties of solids, liquids and gases
- explain in detail the observable properties and behaviours of solids, liquids and gases
- describe the observable properties of solids, liquids and gases.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT / ASP
Each Friday morning, beginning 13 February, all students will be involved in sport. We held the trials for the cricket, softball, bat tennis and rounders teams in term four 2014. The students who made those teams will compete against other schools in the area. All other students have the great opportunity to take part in the Alternative Sports Program (ASP) which is run at Leisure City Epping. Please make sure the permission notes are returned on time so we can run the programs successfully.

BEHAVIOUR
We believe the school values of Cooperation, Respect, Honesty, Caring and Personal Best set the tone and standard to allow everybody to work together and at their best. Our classroom expectations will be developed in the grade with the students, as an important part of our Start Up Program, and these will clearly set out consequences for appropriate and inappropriate behaviour. These will be used to deal with the students’ behaviour throughout the year. Each child and parent will be asked to sign the classroom agreement to show they agree to the consequences. Once again, we ask that you contact your child’s teacher if you have any concerns.
HOMEWORK

Homework will be set each week. The tasks will include numeracy, literacy and Integrated Studies work. Please become familiar with your child’s homework and help them by setting a regular time and place for homework to be completed.

We look forward to an excellent year ahead of us, working with you, to give your child the best possible education.

The 5/6 Team

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

Art – Karren Moncur
During the term the children will be working on aspects of space and its importance in Art. They will create various 2D artworks that explore the illusion of space on a flat surface; this will involve collage, pen and ink, drawing and painting. The children will be encouraged to use different visual tricks to make their pictures look like they are three dimensional. The children will be exposed to art works that demonstrate different ideas in space. The children will study Edgar Degas, a French Impressionist. He used many mediums and also sculpted.

Phys Ed – Lara Arsana
During term 1 the Grade 5/6 students will be learning and participating in Athletic events. These events include: sprinting, long jump, high jump, hurdles, shot put, discus, triple jump and relays. Students will be completing specific drills, for each event, that are designed to improve their skills and technique. All students will be given the opportunity to try out for the sprints, hurdles, 800 metres and field events for our District Athletics Sports to be held on Wednesday 25 March. Successful students will receive more information prior to the event.

Please send your child to school wearing runners or sneakers on their P.E. day as this is the most appropriate footwear for the Multipurpose Centre.

Music – Luis Rios-Gonzalez
In term 1, students will rotate in groups to learn basic skills on guitar, bass, keyboard, ukulele, drum kit and hand drums. There will be a strong music technology emphasis towards the end of term. They will be working on the netbooks to create pieces of music using audio software. Added to that, students will be performing in small percussion groups, and reviewing some basic forms of music notation, in order to create and write their own music.

TERM ONE SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

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<td>5/6 POBJOY/LANIGAN RM 22</td>
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