Williamstown North Primary School

Year 6

Parent Information Session

2016

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Welcome to 2016

• The objective of this session is to provide you with a clear overview of the learning programs planned for this year, as well as the learning expectations we have for students in Year Six.

• We are fortunate to have Ms Tamy Stubley, Principal of Bayside Campus at Williamstown High School, join us at the end of our session to answer any questions you may have about Transition to Year 7.

• A large component of students’ development in Years 6 will be focused on:
  - Organisation
  - Being prepared for learning
  - Initiative
  - Independence
  - Problem Solving
  - Personal Responsibility
Literacy – Reading

• All students will be reading Just Right texts daily during Independent Reading time.
• Reading lessons will be focused on Learning Intentions that will cover the reading comprehension strategies: Visualising, Text Structure, Summarising, Predicting, Think-Aloud and Questioning.
• Reading lessons involve a whole class introduction followed by independent reading when students focus on the learning intention by practising skills and reflecting in their reading journal.
• During Reciprocal Reading and Literature Circles, students will read a range of articles, fiction and non-fiction texts.
• Students set reading goals during conferences with their teacher based on individual learning needs.
Literacy – Writing

• Through explicit instruction, students will learn the appropriate structure and language features relevant to each text type.

• Students will learn the writing process of: planning, writing, editing, revising, conferencing and publishing a variety of different text types.

• Students will be using their Writer’s Notebook to explore and expand ideas that interest them as part of the planning process. They will be able to take risks and experiment with language as a writer. Teachers DO NOT correct in this book. The purpose of a writer’s notebook is to be creative and express their ideas without hesitation.
Numeracy

• A Numeracy Lesson:
  - Begins with a warm-up activity that is aimed at engaging students.
  - Followed by an explanation of the concept and modelling of the activity.
  - Students then complete the activity either independently, with a partner or in small groups.
  - At the conclusion of the lesson students share and reflect on their learning.

• At the beginning of each learning topic, students will complete a common pre-assessment. The resultant data will be used to guide future learning. Students will also complete a post-assessment which will demonstrate their growth.

• With guidance students will set personalised learning goals.
Shared Inquiry

Throughout the year Shared Inquiry topics will be drawn from the Learning Domains of The Humanities, Civics and Citizenship, Biological, Chemical and Earth Sciences, Health and Physical Education and Design, Creativity and Technology.

Term 1 Shared Inquiries

• Australian History – Federation, investigating:
  □ Why and how did Australia become a nation?
  □ How did Australian society change throughout the twentieth century?

• Geography, investigating:
  □ How have Australians affected the environment?
  □ What are some sustainable practices for protecting the future of sensitive environmental areas issues?
Intervention and Extension Program

- This year we are fortunate to be working alongside Melissa Ziebowski for both Literacy and Numeracy.
- Through ongoing common assessments students will be identified to participate in sessions explicitly targeting their individual learning needs.
- The learning focus of these sessions is guided by the needs of the students. This means that the students may attend one session and not the next, given their individual needs.
- Using common assessment tasks, teachers will allocate students to targeted teaching groups (Fluid Groups). This will happen weekly.
- Teachers meet weekly to assess the data and plan collaboratively.
Specialist Classes

• The specialists teachers this year are:
  - Sarah Nobbs – PE
  - Helen Atkins – Japanese
  - Dean Pearce – Performing Arts
  - Vicki Symons – Visual Art
  - Melissa Ziebowski – ICT Support
1:1 eLearning Program

• Students will use their netbooks daily.
• They will be utilised in all areas of learning.
• It is crucial that students bring these to school fully charged everyday. It is their responsibility to be prepared.
Homework

- Homework from Years 3 – 6 at WNPS is compulsory.
- At Year 6 level, students are expected to complete 60 minutes of homework per week (this excludes nightly home reading).
- Homework is designed for students to be able to complete independently.
- We encourage parents to promote the development of an independent homework routine.

### Year 6 Homework Tasks – Term 1 (Weeks 3 – 8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Inquiry</th>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.</td>
<td>In your own words answer the question: “What is FEDERATION?” and list at least 5 interesting facts about Australia becoming a nation</td>
<td>Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelling)</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.</td>
<td>Research a famous Australian who had had a positive effect on Australian History</td>
<td>Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelling)</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.</td>
<td>Williamstown has a rich history – research interesting facts about the origin of Williamstown</td>
<td>Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelling)</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.</td>
<td>There have been many individuals and groups that have contributed to development of Australia’s society today, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and migrants. Choose one such group/individual to investigate, and document their experience and contributions to Australian society</td>
<td>Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelling)</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.</td>
<td>Investigate a natural disaster that occurred in Australia – use evidence such as witness accounts and photos</td>
<td>Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelling)</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New homework sent home on Fridays. Homework due in on Thursdays.**
Diaries

• Diary routines will be set up in the classroom but we encourage parents to promote the use of the diary at home as well as at school.
• The purpose of diaries in Year 6 is to develop organisational skills, independence and ownership of their learning and specifically to prepare for the demands of high school.
• The diary is a communication tool between students, parents and teachers.
• Students are expected to get their diary signed every Week by the homework due date.
Buddies

• The Buddy Program assists in development positive relationships among students.
• Buddy groups will meet weekly and participate in activities designed by the class teachers.
• The program provides the opportunity for senior and junior students to develop positive relationships with each other.
• Through the program, we aim to enhance a caring playground environment by encouraging tolerance, understanding and friendship across year levels.
Camp

This year’s 5/6 Camp is:

Canberra
Monday 18th April – Friday 22nd May

There will be an information night held later in Term 1.
Transition

Some time in or around April, DET distributes transition packs to parents of Yr 6 students via Primary Schools. This pack includes the Application for Year 7 placement which is due back to the school about a month later.

• At WNPS we encourage the Year 6 students throughout the year to focus on independence, initiative, problem solving and organisation as preparation for the expectations in these area of High School.

• As well as the State-wide Year 7 Transition day – usually in early December – WNPS students who will be attending Williamstown High School will attend at least one other Transition morning during which they will tour the school and participate in some model lessons like Home Economics and Marine Biology.

• Private and Independent schools generally transition days, the dates of which vary from school to school.
Thank you for coming.

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