

Williamstown North Primary School

Year 6

Parent Information Session

2018

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Welcome to 2018

- 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 Kerri Wangeman Transition Coordinator at Williamstown High School, join us at the end of our session to answer any questions you may have about Transition from Year 6 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 Inquiry

- Australian History – Federation, investigating:
 - ❑ Why and how did Australia become a nation?
 - ❑ How did Australian society change throughout the twentieth century?
- Emotional and Mental Wellbeing – Revved Up Boys/Powered Girls, investigating:
 - ❑ Conflicts and changes within friendship groups – Why they occur?
 - ❑ What strategies can I draw on when I am stressed, mad or anxious?

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/Felicity Fyfe/Kristy Rummans – PE
 - ❑ Helen Atkins – Japanese
 - ❑ Georgie Petty – Performing Arts
 - ❑ Vicki Symons – Visual Art
 - ❑ Simon Radford – Science
 - ❑ Melissa Ziebowski – Digitech Support

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

PERFORMING ARTS

Each class will have Performing Arts as a specialist class for one semester. Years 3-6 will be learning an item for this years school production, 'The Little Mermaid'. Years Foundation-2 will be learning a song/dance item for their end of semester junior showcase. Students will be learning to 'create, perform and respond' in the areas of Music, Dance and Drama.

VISUAL ARTS

All students attend the Visual Arts Room for a 60 minute lesson per week for one semester. During this session students use a range of art media and materials to plan, make, present and reflect on artworks. Planning is guided by the Victorian Curriculum. Art smocks are provided but students may bring in their own. Any Art incursions, special projects or competitions will be communicated through the school newsletter and eNews bulletin.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Physical Education, we run a 1 hour session each week. In these lessons, the Prep – Year 2's will focus on Fundamental Motor Skills, the Year 3/4's will learn about the different team sports that may be on offer around the local community and in Year 5/6, they will learn about the rules and tactics of each of these sports. They will also be exposed to some non mainstream sports including Ultimate Frisbee. As always, there will be extra curricula events for students in Years 3 – 6, including Hoop Time Basketball.

Science

Science will be a 1 hour session each week for a semester. It will be a very 'hands on' and engaging program with the added bonus of using technology where possible to enhance the student's scientific knowledge within a STEM approach. Foundation will be learning about living things in Biological Science, daily and seasonal changes in Earth and Space, How things move in Physical Science and materials in Chemical Science. Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5 will be learning States of Matter for Chemical Science and Space and Earth Science. Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 will be learning about the life cycle and biomes in Biological Science and forces and electrical circuits in Physical Science.

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

LOTE – Japanese 日本語



All students attend Japanese for a 60 minute lesson per week.

Students in **Foundation to Year 2** enjoy learning through songs and games, and also start to recognise the Hiragana writing script.

Students in **Years 3 to 6** are challenged to read and write Hiragana, aiming to become “Hiragana Black Belts” by the end of Year 6. Language games and activities are used to reinforce the students’ Japanese language acquisition.

Students have the opportunity to correspond with children from our **sister school in Yokohama, Japan**.

On our annual **Japanese Day**, the whole school comes together to celebrate Japanese culture.



Digital Technologies

In addition to the digital technologies used regularly to enhance the learning opportunities within classrooms, all P-3 classes will participate in hourly sessions for One Semester with the Digital Technologies specialist teacher, Melissa Ziebowski.

These sessions will focus on developing skills and encouraging all students to become confident and discerning users of digital technologies.

As well, there will be a focus on developing computational thinking which involves creating digital solutions in response to solving a problem, including the use of programming languages (coding).

The 4-6 classes will be using their 1:1 device daily and exploring Digital Technologies further through one of their Inquiry Units. Lunchtime activities held in the MMC will allow students to choose to explore and extend their interests in Digi Tech.

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)

6A Homework schedule:

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

Week	Reading	Inquiry	Spelling	Numeracy
4 Due: Thursday 18/2	Please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.	In your own words answer the question: "What is FEDERATION?", and list at least 5 interesting facts about Australia becoming a nation	Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelloidrome)	Maths Mate
5 Due: Thursday 25/2	Please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.	Research a famous Australian who has had a positive effect on Australian history	Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelloidrome)	Maths Mate
6 Due: Thursday 3/3	Please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.	Williamstown has a rich history – research interesting facts about the origins of Williamstown	Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelloidrome)	Maths Mate
7 Due: Thursday 10/3	Please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.	There have been many individuals and groups that have contributed to development of Australian'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	Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelloidrome)	Maths Mate
8 Due: Thursday 17/3	Please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.		Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelloidrome)	Maths Mate
9 Due: Thursday 24/3	Please remember to read for at least 15 minutes each night.	Investigate a natural disaster that occurred in Australia – use evidence such as witness recoumts and photos	Weekly Spelling Investigation (Spelloidrome)	Maths Mate

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 program is aimed at fostering relationships between students at varying age groups all over the school.*
- *The Prep-Grade 6 Buddy program allows Grade 6 students to demonstrate leadership and maturity whilst developing confidence and positive influences on the Prep students. We aim to allocate an hour of buddies time at least one a fortnight for the entirety of the year.*

Camp

This year's Grade 6 Camp is:

Canberra Camp

30th of April – 4th of May in Term 2.

- Permission and Expression of Interest by the Friday 23rd of Feb.

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.

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Thank you for coming.

