

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here is our Term 3 Grade Six newsletter.

If you would like to contact your child's teacher via email, please see the below addresses.

Grade 6 Teachers

6A – Matt Amery matthew.amery@woodlandsps.com

6B- Kara Brereton kara.brereton@woodlandsps.com

6S- Adam Salerni adam.salerni@woodlandsps.com

6W- Harry Whitehead harry.whitehead@woodlandsps.com

We hope you find this a quick and easily accessible mode of two way communication.

Important Dates

Week 3 - Australian Maths Competition (1st August)

Week 4- Primary Schools notify parents of Yr7 placements (7th August)

- EMC notifies parents of results for Specialist Programs via email (9th August)
- Woodlands Got Talent Showcase (8th August)

Week 6- Book Week (19th August)

- Footsteps - 1 session per week till the end of term (21st August)
- Thrive Media Night (22nd August)
- **Curriculum Day** (23rd August)

Week 7- Genius Hour (27th August),

- Father's Day Stall (28th and 29th of August)

Week 10 - Footy Day (20th Sept),

- Last Day 2:30 Finish (20th Sept)

Transition timeline for 2019 to 2020

Parents are notified of placement offers

Wednesday 7 August

Primary schools notify parents/carers of Year 6 students of placement offers, in writing.

Lodging non-placement appeals

Thursday 8 August

Parents/carers may commence lodging non-placement appeals with secondary schools.

Secondary schools may distribute enrolment, orientation and any other transition information to parents/carers of future Year 7 students.

Deadline for lodging non-placement appeals with schools

Monday 19 August

Closing date for parents/carers to lodge a non-placement appeal with secondary schools.

Outcome of appeals

Friday 30 August

Secondary schools notify all parents/carers of the outcome of non-placement appeals by this date.

Deadline for lodging appeals with Regional Director

Friday 13 September

Closing date for parents/carers to lodge a non-placement appeal with the Regional Director where they are unsuccessful with their appeal to the secondary school.

Orientation Day

Tuesday 10 December

Secondary schools host Orientation Day for Year 6 students.

Please contact Adam Salerni if you have any questions regarding transition. Email is preferable.

Homework

Homework has not been compulsory at our school in previous years (apart from expected reading). However, as the students are moving towards secondary school, we see a small amount of homework as beneficial for students to begin a good routine and improve organisational skills.

This year, students are expected to complete nightly reading (2.5 hours per week), practise weekly spelling words and any other homework that is given out. Most often, it will be work that isn't completed in class or project work. This homework shouldn't be too difficult and if it is, please contact your child's teacher to make alternative arrangements.

Maths

This term, there is a major focus on the strand of Measurement and Geometry. Our maths units will include: understanding the metric system along with converting between common metric units of length, mass and capacity; and the Four Operations. It would be great if parents could embrace this and look to ask questions at every opportunity relating to converting metric units. Along with these overall units, we will be continuing to teach "number" and we will be revising all other areas through our weekly Mental Maths tasks and Number Talks. Our Maths 300 unit will also continue which aims to help students with their problem solving skills.

Throughout our measurement unit, the students will require a sound knowledge of their times tables, and a sound knowledge of how to multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. They must continue to practise these at home, as it will benefit them greatly and allow them to complete their work with more efficiency. If your child feels that they need to practise their skills, we have the Mathletics program which students can work on at home. This program provides immediate feedback, hints and will help to improve basic skills.

English

This term for writing we are focusing on poetry, biographies of influential Australians and narrative text types. Students will also get the chance to participate in our VCOP sessions which allow students to partake in games and activities to help enhance their writing ability. Students are also being exposed to a variety of CAFE reading strategies which will help them to improve their understanding and comprehension of the texts they read. Students are continuing to learn a range of spelling words each fortnight through the Jolly Phonics program to help improve their vocabulary. It is important that your child continues to practice their spelling words every night to ensure they are ready for their spelling test each fortnight.

Inquiry

This term we will complete our inquiry unit based on Economics & Business with our World Trade unit. After visiting the Queen Victoria Market, students will compare and contrast Australian products with those made from overseas. Students will complete small group presentations from their findings, focusing on what it means to be a responsible consumer as a global citizen.

Our next unit will focus on Geography investigating how the location of continents within the world impacts on climate and living conditions. Key areas will centre around the geographical features of

continents, how the climatic conditions of a continent affects the living conditions of its citizens and how population growth affects natural resources. Geography is an important learning area included in the curriculum which helps students understand the world beyond the classroom.

Wellbeing

This year we are continuing a program called “THRIVE”, which focuses on student wellbeing. This program will run across the year, with a different theme each term. Students will be involved with weekly lessons based on different concepts, for example, “understanding anger”. This term we are focusing on ‘cyberbullying’ and ‘digital citizenship’. Students will complete a digital licence through the Alannah & Madeline Foundation. All classes are entering the Thrive video competition for a chance to represent Woodlands at the upcoming Thrive Media Night at EMC on Thursday the 22nd of August.

Genius Hour

Genius Hour is well underway this term with students working hard on their respective projects. Students have been working for several weeks now, researching heavily their chosen topic of interest. The students have been learning about what it takes to gather information accurately, whether it by via the internet, through books or contacting an expert in their chosen topic. It will be exciting to see the presentations come to life on the 27th of August for the Woodlands community to see.

Thank you,

The Grade Six Team