

Term 1, Year 6 Newsletter 2021

Welcome to Term 1 in Year 6! We are looking forward to a wonderful year of growth and learning with your children in what is a very special final year of their education at Woodlands. Year 6 offers many exciting opportunities and privileges and we encourage all students to have a go and rise to the occasion as leaders of our school community.

Reading

During Reading this term, students will be investigating a range of different text types and will be considering concepts related to 'language, literature and literacy'. They will interact with shared and personal texts at an individual, whole class and small group level and complete tasks to build their comprehension skills. All classes will be visiting the school library weekly and all students will have the opportunity to borrow texts to support their interests and reading development.

Writing

During Writing this term, students will create Information Reports, Explanation and Procedural texts. To do so, they will undertake the writing process of researching, planning, composing, revising, editing and publishing. For each step of the writing process, students will be supported through individual conferences and small group work. There will also be opportunities for students to assess each other's writing and offer peer feedback. During explicit teaching time, it will be modelled to students how to use the correct structure and uplevel their language choices to create rich texts. Students will frequently add words that they discover to a whole class vocabulary wall and will be encouraged to use them in a meaningful way.

Spelling & Grammar

In spelling this term. Students will continue to work through their Jolly Phonics program. Students will be learning set spelling word lists based around specific concepts, and will be tested on their progress weekly. Students are expected to be practicing their spelling word list at home each week, using the '*look, say, cover, write & check*' technique to help. Coupled with their spelling, students will have a focus to learn in grammar each week through the Jolly Phonics program. So far, students have been revising homophones and verb tenses over the last three weeks.

Maths

We are currently in the middle of our Place Value unit. Students have been familiarising themselves with terms such as square and triangular numbers, while reinforcing their knowledge of prime and composite numbers. Students have worked hard on enhancing their skills through regular Number Talks, allowing them to learn and develop efficient mental strategies and verbalising their answers with greater clarity. Throughout this unit, we will also be looking at strategies to solve problems involving positive and negative numbers. At home, discussing things such as temperatures from around the world (positive and negative temperatures) can further enhance their understanding of this concept. Our next maths unit is 4 Operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Our focus will be on accurately completing problems involving all 4 operations using both whole and decimal numbers. There will be an emphasis on using these skills in real life situations towards the end of the unit. To conclude Term 1, we will be looking at constructing prisms and pyramids, and identifying unknown angles within and outside particular lines and shapes. Please encourage your child to learn/review their times tables, an automatic recall of these facts makes learning new mathematical concepts much easier.

Year 6 Sport

All students have chosen a summer sporting team and will be participating in training at school, 'friendly' matches against our closest neighbouring schools and culminating in a one day tournament. Please check Compass for further updates. -Please note, the Woodlands PE top is to be worn each Friday.

Chromebooks

The brand new Chromebooks have been rolled out to all year 6 classrooms. We are excited to have this technology at our fingertips! Each student will have their own device and are responsible for looking after it and ensuring it is on charge in the classroom charging stations each night.

Inquiry

This term, our inquiry unit is based around "The Australian Government". Our key questions to focus on are:

1. What are the roles and responsibilities of our three levels of government?
2. Who are Australia's great change makers, and how did they impact society?
3. How are our leaders elected?

To start with, students will explore the rights and responsibilities that come with being a citizen of Australia. In assigned groups, students will create their own political parties, applying their political understanding to campaign their ideas in our very own 'Woodlands Election'. They will create posters and a short video advertising the values of their political party. Students will study major events that lead to Australia becoming a nation. Students will become experts on specific people, places and events from our past, presenting this new found knowledge with their class.

General Reminders

- Students are expected to bring their school diary to school each day and use it as a tool to build their personal organisation
- Students are asked to complete 20-30 minutes of reading at home, 5 nights a week and record this in their school diaries
- Please sign your child's diary to make sure that they have read
- Students need to practice their weekly spelling words list each week at home
- Seesaw is active, please check this forum for class news, if you are having trouble logging in, please contact your class teacher
- Please ensure you are checking Compass regularly for important school updates.

Year 6 Teaching Team

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher should you have any questions or concerns, please call the school office to arrange a time to speak or contact us via the below emails. Thankyou

Teacher	Class and Room	Email
Mrs Jessica Merritt	6M, Room 36	jessica.merritt@woodlandsp.com
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