

Year 6 Term 1 Overview

This newsletter contains links to web-based that can help you assist your child with their learning. You may like to access this newsletter through COMPASS on a device if you wish to access these resources.

Welcome to the 2022 school year in Grade 6!

We hope you all had a wonderful break and are ready for the school year ahead.

Our Grade 6 teaching team for 2022 will include Lisa Haines (6A) and Ryan Murphy (6B). Britt Trotter will also be joining us on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to help with the running of targeted small group teaching sessions throughout the year.

The feeling around the school has been really positive in the first few days and we are looking forward to a year full of fun times and great learning. We strive to empower all of our students to develop a 'Growth Mindset'. We praise our students for putting in effort and persisting with their learning because when students believe they can improve, they understand that effort makes them stronger.

Each teacher has high expectations and will expect your child to do their best at all times. As a Grade 6 cohort we are:

- Kind to ourselves and others
- Prepared for learning
- Determined to give our best
- Respectful to ourselves, others and our environment

We value a home and school partnership and we encourage you to continue to communicate with us if you have any queries or concerns. You will see your child's teacher out the front of the grade 6 classrooms every afternoon, so please come and say hello. This would be an ideal time to arrange a follow-up meeting about your child if you think it is necessary.

We also look forward to being able to invite you back into our classrooms to support the students in their learning journey. Please be in touch with the child's classroom teacher if you would like to volunteer in the classroom when current restrictions allow.

The following is an overview of our structures and programs to help inform you of what we teach and how we teach. At the beginning of this term we will focus on:

READING-

This year our Grade 6 students will all be participating in Book Club as part of our reading curriculum. Throughout the year the students will be reading a variety of texts in small groups, discussing the themes and content, and sharing their ideas and opinions with their peers and teachers in a small group setting. Children will practice focussed discussion skills, enjoy reading a whole novel, develop their critical thinking and participate in a social reading process. The focus is on children mining deeper into the book for themselves, noticing their personal thoughts and opinions, and having a discussion with elements of opinion, debate, and evidence. The rich oral language opportunities involved in explaining and defending thoughts are invaluable.

There are many benefits to Book Club and reading a novel in this structured format has the backing of many years of research. You can find more information about this on the Victorian Curriculum website

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/english/literacy/Pages/default.aspx>

WRITING-

This term our writing focus will be centred on Persuasive Texts. Students will explore a range of persuasive language devices that help them to develop convincing arguments to support their opinions in both written and oral forms. They will plan, draft and publish a persuasive text and participate in a debate to demonstrate and express their opinions.

Our writing sessions will also utilise the 'Writer's Notebook', creating a place to contain all their ideas, thoughts and draft work in progress.

We will continue to explore and develop students' vocabulary to enhance their writing and improve grammar, spelling and punctuation accuracy.

SPELLING/PHONICS-

This includes the 50-minute Phonemic Awareness session each day

Review 10 minutes	Revisit of letter/sounds learnt in previous lessons using Orton Gillingham Drill Cards. Morphology: e/es- makes plural, 'i/ng' is a suffix showing present tense Dictation: Check in of sounds being studied/revised
Phonics or Morphology 30	Phonics-Explicit spelling/sound lesson- this will include using Dandelion Decodable readers to explore sounds, as well as practising decoding strategies when reading these stories SMART Spelling word lists to practise decoding strategies. Students will continue to learn Morphology Awareness as they investigate which prefix/root/suffix is found in words, and will be introduced to a 'Lexicon' morphology dictionary. The Lexicon will showcase morphemes (smallest unit of sound in a word) and meaning e.g. Prefix 're' means to repeat or do again Root word 'vid' means to see Suffix 'ing' present tense- added to verbs
Reading Fluency 10 minutes	Students will practise pace and expression in reading. Fluency tasks will include word lists, sentences, paragraphs and or short stories. Fluency lists/passages are practised throughout the week and students have the opportunity to share reading with each other.

MATHEMATICS-

All teachers at Edithvale Primary follow the 'Booker' Sequence for teaching Maths. This developmental sequence is used for teaching all place value/number skills and four processes: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

This term in class, the topics to be covered include Place Value, Multiplication and Division, Money and Time.

Essential Assessment is an online platform that can be used by students to assist them to continue to develop from their current understanding in relation to the Maths curriculum. Students will receive a login for **'My Numeracy'** and **'Sunset Maths'** along with instructions on how to access the platform.

My Numeracy™ & My Literacy®

Students are able to complete their My Numeracy™ and My Literacy® activities which have been set up based upon the concepts that have been misunderstood in their pre-assessment and they are available for use within each sub-strand. The message board will assist the student to determine which activities need to be completed by which date.



Sunset Maths

Sunset Maths is an application aimed at developing the student's mental maths skills. This is available through the games icon and sets up based upon the student's pre-assessment results. The student will work through curriculum aligned content to develop their knowledge in each operator in alignment with their learning.



Below are some maths links that might assist in-home learning inspirations;

- Nrich- <https://nrich.maths.org/primary>
- Youcubed- <https://www.youcubed.org/>
- Resolve- <https://resolve.edu.au/>

For additional ways to reinforce your child's learning at home, you may also like to try <http://www.math-play.com/place-value-games.html> for some fun interactive tools for learning.

Finally, a great resource for making maths fun for students at home is Maths Playground <https://www.mathplayground.com/>.

WELLBEING-

The Resilience Project and The Resilience, Rights, and Respectful Relationships Initiative will be our key programs that will help guide our Wellbeing lessons. Some of the benefits from these programs are:

- Improved confidence and self-esteem, especially in relation to their peer relationships
- Improved wellbeing and ability to express emotions
- Improved knowledge and communication of emotions
- Improved relationships both at school and at home
- More supportive classroom environments,

In addition, we will continue to have regular circle time discussions that are directly related to topics and issues that arise throughout the week, as well as use restorative practices to assist repair and rebuild relationships.

Some useful links and further information are listed here.

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/>

<https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/ResourcePackage/ByPin?pin=2JZX4R>

<https://www.zonesofregulation.com/learn-more-about-the-zones.html>

We are also excited to offer a Martial Arts Therapy (MAT) Program this year for students. The MAT Program will work alongside our school wellbeing programs and further strengthen the wellbeing opportunities and growth for your little people.

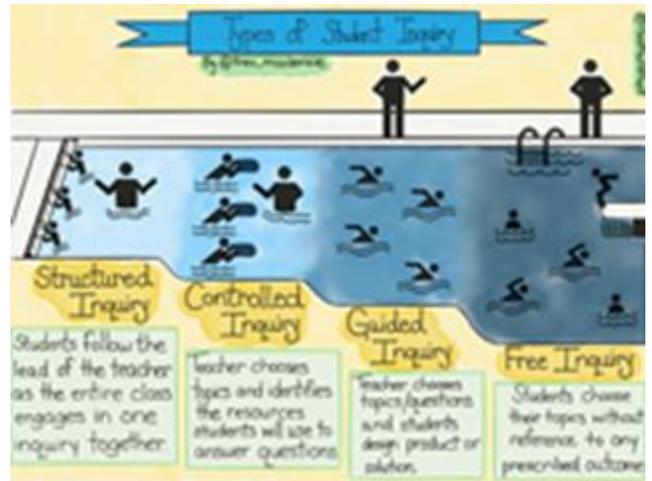
The MAT Life Skills Program is aligned to the Victorian Personal and Social Capability Curriculum strands of Self-Awareness and Management, and Social Awareness and Management. The program aims to assist students to learn the life skills required to manage challenges more effectively in their lives and all sessions are run by a trained instructor from the MAT Life Skills Program. Some of the learning areas in the program include,

- *Helping young people to recognise their emotions and express them appropriately*
- *Supporting young people in becoming confident, resilient and adaptable*
- *Developing pathways for effective communication*
- *Showing positive ways in which to negotiate and manage conflict*
- *Becoming disciplined and capable of setting goals*

PROJECT-BASED INQUIRY LEARNING

What is PBIL?

Project-Based Inquiry Learning is our Whole-School approach to exploring key ideas across the Victorian Curriculum in a different and engaging way. Each project is authentic and has a real-world real world context where students are collaborating, creating, researching and designing in order to answer their **big question** posed at the beginning of their unit. A key feature of this approach to learning is that it is driven by student voice and choice in the way that they design a product, how they work and how they use their time. How this looks differs as students' progress through the year levels. Each unit of inquiry culminates in a public product where students are able to showcase their learning to those beyond the classroom.



Why PBIL you might ask?

"Project-based learning experiences give students opportunities that they would never have in school otherwise." (Juliani, 2018)

What does PBIL look like in Grade 6 this term?

Our big question is - **How can we create a market stall that is profitable?**

Other questions we will be investigating this term are:

- How do we decide what to sell and how much to charge?
- What influences people when making decisions to purchase items?
- Can anyone start a business and how do they get started?
- What is an enterprise?
- What are profit, loss and taxes?
- How can I make customers happy and buy my items?

These questions are intentionally open-ended and we encourage you to discuss possible answers with your child.

Our students will need to show how they have researched, designed, collaborated and created their mini-business to sell their items at a “market” event to be run at school in the last week of Term 1 (dependent upon restrictions). Each child will be asked to contribute around \$10 of their own money, which we encourage you to determine how they will earn that money, and this will be the start-up funds for their market stall. Any profits made will be donated to the chosen charity.

FRENCH-

The French program will provide opportunities to develop their understanding of the French language and cultural awareness. French is used increasingly for classroom interactions, routines and exchanges, for demonstrating understanding and for communicating simple information. Students increase their range of French vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar and textual knowledge. The students will develop research skills through the use of dictionaries/Google translate and work independently on defined projects using Language online & Languagenut (Assessment online).

ART-

The Visual Arts program aims to provide for and nurture student learning through a variety of sequential activities that develop fine motor skills, and link to learning in the classroom where possible. In year 6 students explore a variety of art media whilst building on their understanding of the art elements of colour, line, texture, pattern, form, value and composition. They plan, select, arrange and make choices related to developing their artwork. In term 1, students will be working on self-portraits, they will focus on form, shape and space/proportion. Students are encouraged to respond and reflect on their own artwork and the artwork of others.

PE-

Students will participate in weekly 50-minute Physical Education lessons where the development of fundamental motor skills and movement patterns have been combined into a games-sense approach. This term students will focus on the different strategies and game tactics involved in throwing and catching games such as basketball, cricket, volleyball and other modified games.

SCIENCE-

The Science program provides students with hands-on science experiences where they can construct their own scientific understandings. This term, students will be working within Chemical Sciences to explore the ways that materials can be changed. Changes to materials can be reversible, including melting, freezing, evaporating, or irreversible, including burning and rusting. Students will focus on the reversible change; ‘evaporation’ and will work weekly to build their own terrariums which rely on this change to thrive. Students will implement Science inquiry skills such as; questioning, analysing, planning, conducting, evaluating and communicating.

HOME LEARNING AND SEESAW--

Seesaw is back!



Let's not be scared and get all nervous about the prospect of more remote learning. Seesaw is a fantastic tool that was created long before Covid-19 hit the world. Seesaw helps build a great communication chain between parents,

students and teachers about the students' learning. It provided the students with a safe place to share their achievements, how they are feeling about their learning, for consolidating areas of need and show what they are doing in the classroom. We will be using this platform to post student work, reflections, videos etc. each week. At home, students should be reading each night and are encouraged to log on to My Numeracy to complete set tasks when it is appropriate to do so. There will be times throughout the term where, as part of our PBIL, some research and preparation will need to be done at home as well as any unfinished work from English or Maths Groups.

YEAR 6 INTERSCHOOL SPORT-

Each Year 6 student will represent our school at Interschool Sport this year. In term 1, the sports which will be played are Basketball, Cricket and Volleyball. All of the dates on the fixture are subject to weather and will be cancelled in the morning in case of bad weather. We would love some parental help on the days of Interschool Sport, whether it be in a coaching capacity or just simply to support our students. Please chat with your child's teacher if you would like help.

KEY TERM 1 DATES

February 18th	District Swimming
February 25th	Interschool Sports
March 4th	Interschool Sport
March 9th	Queen Victoria Market Excursion (TBC)
March 11th	Interschool Sport
March 18th	Lightning Premiership
April 1st	Edithvale PS Twilight Easter market
April 7th	PBIL- Market Stalls
April 8th	Last Day of term. 2:30 pm finish