

SPECIALIST TEAM NEWSLETTER

~ Term 3, 2024 ~

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Prep students will initially be exposed to a unit of *Gymnastics*, where they will use their body to create movements and shapes. Balance and posture will be promoted through general floor work, balance beams and forward/backward rolls. Students will finish the term by participating in a unit about the two-handed strike. Prep students will be learning to strike a ball using an array of equipment, including baseball and cricket bats. They will focus on using the correct technique to successfully strike a stationary ball.

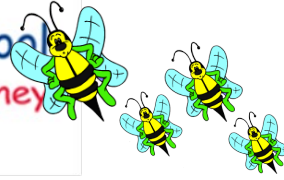
Grade 1 and 2 students will complete a unit of *Gymnastics*, where they will be challenged to participate in different movements and activities. Balance and posture will be promoted through general floor work, balance beams, forward/backward rolls and swinging. Students will finish the term by participating in a unit learning about the two-handed strike. Students will be striking a ball using an array of equipment, including baseball bats, cricket bats, golf clubs and hockey sticks. They will focus on the correct technique to efficiently strike a stationary and moving object.

Grade 3 and 4 students will participate in a unit of *Invasion Games*, where they will be learning about teamwork to help their team to succeed. They will learn about skills including dribbling, passing and different forms of scoring. Throughout the unit they will have an opportunity to think about strategies to defend and attack against an opposing side. At the end of the unit, students will be able to play a sport/s of their choice where they will work on their sportsmanship and respecting an umpire.

Grade 5 and 6 students will participate in a unit of *Invasion Games*, where they will be learning about attack and defense, along with strategies to help their team to be successful. They will focus on skills including dribbling, passing and scoring with a variety of equipment. Throughout the unit they will have an opportunity to think about strategies to defend against the opposition and put themselves in the correct position to attack in each game. At the end of the unit, students will be able to compete in a round robin tournament where they will work on their sportsmanship and adjudicating skills.

Eugene Stanciu and Mark Grant (Physical Education Teachers)





S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Grade 2 students will begin their S.T.E.M. journey by looking at what it is like to be and think like a scientist. They will get to observe and carry out some simple experiments to test hypotheses and formulate scientific thinking. They will also have a short unit on Engineering/Construction where they will test out different structures and materials.

Grade 3 students will be studying Environmental Science, looking at the wonders of nature. They will learn about simple horticulture, growing a variety of flowers, herbs and vegetables, from seeds and pellets. They will study a variety of plant types, learning growing tips to produce the best results. The second half of the term will focus on ways we can become more sustainable (e.g. waste-management - recycling and composting).

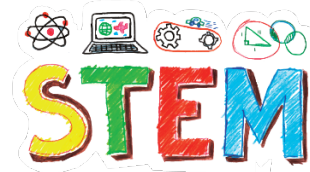
Grade 4 students will continue to look at design concepts, completing their mini-golf courses, testing and showcasing their work with their younger buddies. They will then look at Toyimation movie making techniques, using Stop Motion animation software and IPEVO cameras. This will support learning back in class to complement story telling in their class project looking at 'Our Place in Time'.

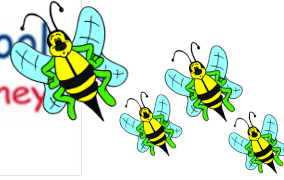
Grade 5 students will study a unit on Chemical Science looking at different states of matter and how they can change, investigating the molecular structure of materials. We will conduct fair test experiments and see how chemicals can change, sometimes reversible and sometimes irreversible. Our bike education program will continue by consolidating core riding skills and using gears, and moving on to group riding skills.

Grade 6 students will have a more in depth look at block coding, building on work from last year, to create their own digital games and animations. Once they have mastered key coding skills we will look at programming and Robotics using M-Block and Edison robots. They will learn how to program motors and a variety of sensors to carry out a series of missions.

LET THE FUN BEGIN!!!

Michael Sisson (STEM Teacher)





PERFORMING ARTS

Prep students will delve into the world of music. Initially, they will explore chanting songs followed by mastering the skill of following a beat. They will practice this skill using body percussion and various instruments such as rhythm sticks. Throughout the term, students will develop their ability to follow a beat individually, in class settings and within small groups. Each lesson will culminate in opportunities for students to demonstrate their progress by presenting what they've learned to their peers.

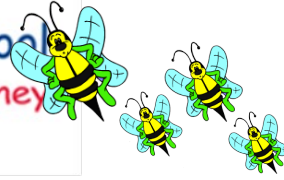
Grade 1 and 2 students will explore the art of music, specifically focusing on percussion. The term begins with a focus on body percussion and using cups for rhythmic expression. As their understanding deepens, students will gradually explore a variety of musical instruments. These include drumming sticks, rhythm sticks, bells, clackers, maracas, triangles and boomwhackers. By the conclusion of Term 3, students will have the skills to compose their own songs using various percussion techniques and will showcase their compositions through performances for their peers.

Grade 3 students will be focusing on the art of music this term. They will be starting the term learning how to play the African Drums, such as the djembe and the bongo. At the end of the unit, they will be using other classroom percussion instruments (e.g., shakers and tambourines) to be the drum kit as a collective and play their section of the song. After the unit on percussion, they will be learning how to play the boomwhackers (musical pipes) and musical bells. Students will be playing these as a class and also in smaller groups where they will try and play different songs together.

Grade 4 students will be learning about the art of music this term. African drums will be the first focus and they will be exposed to the djembe and bongos. They will learn to play these instruments correctly with their hands. At the end of the unit they will be using other classroom percussion instruments to play their parts in songs. As a whole class they will sound like a drum kit in a band. Students will also be composing their own percussion rhythms and as a group will have different instruments to play to create some interesting sounds. Students will then be engaged in a unit of boomwhackers (musical pipes).

Grade 5 students will be focusing on the art of music this term. They will be learning how to play the standard drum kit. This will be taught by using the classroom chairs and some drum sticks. They will also be learning how to play the guitar. They will learn several different chords that are popular and by the end of the unit, they should be able to play along to different songs.

Emma Chang & Adele Gilligan (Performing Arts Teachers)



VISUAL ARTS

Prep students will engage in exciting units that will incorporate several special events this term, including NAIDOC week, the Olympics, Book Week, and Father's Day. Students will learn about the significance of the Olympic torch, the Olympic rings and the Olympic medals. They will produce these Olympic items in various ways, including painting, modelling with clay and print making. Students will learn how to make coils from clay and then produce their own coiled creature to take home. They will learn about an Australian artist - John Olsen, and take inspiration from his 'Frogs' paintings, to produce their own similar creations. Art elements emphasised this term include colour, line and shape.

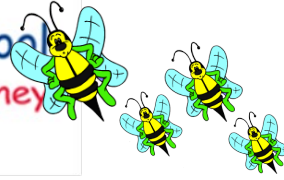
Grade 1 students will incorporate several special events including NAIDOC week, the Olympics, Book Week, and Father's Day into their Art units this term. Units covered will include Modelling, with opportunities to create their own modelling clay monsters and Olympic medals, and Threads & Textiles. Students will produce some fabric art as well as a woven art piece for someone special in September. For the Book Week theme, 'Reading is Magic', students will blend water colour paints to create a rainbow effect and then they will *work their magic* to create a beautiful collage! Art skills emphasised this term include cutting, threading, collaging and a focus on presentation.

Grade 2 students will incorporate several special events including NAIDOC week, the Olympics, Book Week, and Father's Day into their Art units this term. Units covered will include Modelling and Threads & Textiles. Students will learn to make a simple clay pinch pot with added features to produce their own bird's nest. They will learn the difference between threads and textiles, and they will incorporate these into an Olympic rings collage. There will be drawing opportunities with a variety of markers for the Book Week lessons, which will produce a whole class optical illusion collage! Some fun fingerpainting will happen for the Father's Day activity. Art elements emphasised this term include colour, texture, and shape.

Grade 5 students will be reacquainted with the procedures and expectations of the Art room as they begin their creative journeys for the first time this year. They will learn about a traditional Chinese paper cutting skill called '*Jianzhi*' and create an Olympic template. Students will learn a painting technique called '*Pointillism*' and use this to create the Olympic rings artwork. Students will engage in the art of Zen Tangle: a calming combination of mark making and mindfulness. After having opportunities to practise many 'tangles', they will produce their name creatively using this mark making method. For the Threads & Textiles unit, students will learn the basic running stitch. They will also learn about the Japanese stitching art called '*Shashiko*'. Students will then design and stitch their own Shashiko. The Art elements of line and pattern will be largely emphasised this term.

Grade 6 students will be reacquainted with the procedures and expectations of the Art room as they begin their creative journeys for the first time this year. Print Making, Painting, Drawing, and Collage will be incorporated to produce an Olympic theme artwork this term. Students will learn about an artistic movement called '*Fauvism*' and the characteristics that make up this style. They will then use this knowledge when adding colour to their self-portrait drawings. Finally, students will learn about '*legacy*' and how they can leave an artistic legacy of themselves on the traditional Year 6 Bellbridge tile. Art elements emphasised this term include colour, shape, and line.

Jane Walton & Felicia Tomelty (Visual Arts teachers)



AUSLAN

Prep students will learn about ideographics which are pictures used to represent the words signed in Auslan. They will learn about the meaning and value of pointing and signs that are iconic- we instantly recognise the meaning compared to signs we have to learn. They will use paper dolls to learn about clothing signs.

Grade 1 students will look at the similarities between Auslan and English and classify noun signs into people, places, animals and things. They will learn about world cultures and languages. They will learn the signs for Australian states and capital cities.

Grade 3 students will learn about deafness and deaf culture. They will create a card game for transport signs and learn how to give and follow directions. They will learn the criteria used to distinguish between signs - handshape, orientation, location, movement and expression.

Grade 4 students will learn about deafness and deaf culture. They will learn to sign descriptive information about people (e.g. she has curly hair). They will create a short video signing information to introduce themselves and also create a bilingual text.

Grade 6 students will increase their knowledge of signed languages and cultures. They will sign and record a news item about school events, learn to dance without music and create a digital story to share.

Joan Hofmann (AUSLAN Teacher)