



# Middle School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 5

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017

## Dates:

**30<sup>th</sup> August:** Year 4  
Excursion to Mater Christi  
Performance

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September:** Year  
3 Camp Phillip Island

**11<sup>th</sup> September:** Forces  
and Motion Incursion

**12<sup>th</sup> September:** Night to  
Shine Concert

**18<sup>th</sup> September:** Footy  
Walk-a-thon

**22<sup>nd</sup> September:** Last  
Day Term 3: 2.30 pm  
dismissal

**9<sup>th</sup> September:** First day  
Term 4

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## Transdisciplinary Theme

### How the World Works

*An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and the environment.*

#### Central Idea:

People apply their understanding of forces and energy to invent and create.

#### Key Concepts:

Form, Function, Causation

#### An inquiry into:

- Inventions that impact peoples' lives
- How circumstances lead to the creation of important inventions
- How understanding forces and energy helps inventors

**Learner Profile:** Inquirers, Knowledgeable

**Attitudes:** Commitment, Curiosity and Enthusiasm

#### Approaches to Learning:

*During this unit, we will be working on developing the following skills:*

#### Research Skills:

Planning

#### Thinking Skills:

Analysing, Synthesising and Evaluating

#### Communication Skills:

Writing

#### Self-Management Skills:

Fine motor skills

**Summative Task:** By the end of the unit, Middle School students will be able to create a simple machine to complete an everyday task. They will be able to explain the types of forces and energy used by their machine to help it function.

## Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

### IB learners are:

Inquirers  
Knowledgeable  
Thinkers  
Communicators  
Principled  
Open-minded  
Caring  
Risk-takers  
Balanced  
Reflective

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## Literacy

In Literacy:

- We will be writing procedures that instruct someone on how to do or make something. We will also be creating information texts where students classify and/or describe a class of things, using known facts as well as their research.
- During our reading sessions we will focus specifically on comprehension strategy instruction to help students become purposeful, active readers who are in control of their own reading comprehension.
- In spelling we will be looking at silent letters, possessives, contractions and tenses. We will develop vocabulary around our unit of inquiry How the World Works.
- Our oral, visual and technological communication will be based on the Victorian Curriculum outcomes such as understanding that social interactions influence the way people engage with ideas and respond to others

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## Numeracy

In Numeracy, over the coming weeks students will be:

- Investigating the transformation of shapes to make patterns. We will be using language such as Flip, Turn and Slide. Students will explore the symmetry of shapes.
- Continue to develop their understanding of the link between division and multiplication including learning the algorithm of a multiplication sum, fact families and recall multiplication facts of 2, 3, 5 and 10 and related division facts
- Learning to measure, order and compare objects using familiar metric units of mass. They will use scaled instruments to accurately record mass