



Senior School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 1

Thursday 23rd February

Reminders:

Senior students are reminded to return their homework weekly. Year 5 students return homework on **Wednesdays** and Year 6 students return homework on **Mondays**.

Dates/Special Events:

Tues 21st to Fri 24th
March Camp Lorne for Year 6 students - please make final payments soon

(please return pink medical forms asap to Ms Vavasseur)

Wed 22nd to Fri 24th
March Camp Sovereign Hill for Year 5 students - please make final payments soon

(please return pink medical forms asap to Ms Davis)

Transdisciplinary Theme

How We Express Ourselves

An inquiry in to the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the way in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

Central Idea

Popular culture and the media influence the way we think and express ourselves.

Key Concepts: function, perspective reflection

Lines of Inquiry

- How images, text and music are used to influence behavior of target audiences
- Critical evaluation of messages presented in the media
- How people respond to messages.

Learner Profile

Communicator, Reflective

Approaches to Learning

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

Social: Respecting Others

Research: Interpreting Data

Communication: Presenting

Self-Management: Informed Choices

Summative Task

By the end of the unit, Senior students will be able to analyse a sample of media in order to understand how popular culture and the media influences the way we think and express ourselves, by reflecting and justifying your thoughts.

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

Literacy

Senior students will participate in reading sessions that aim to expand students' repertoire of strategic actions to solve language problems. To be proficient readers, students need to be highly active in making meaning, self-monitor and take action when a problem is encountered. The senior teachers provide responsive, differentiated instruction to meet the needs of each student. Teacher literacy instruction combines mini-lessons, guided reading, conferences, shared and independent approaches to support students in their skill development. Reading lessons this term will focus on the skills of; recognizing the main idea, summarizing, self-monitoring and articulating their thinking.

Participation in talk is essential. Students will learn that engaging in conversation and discussion about text supports their understanding of the text they are reading. Students will write about their reading and learn about the interchange between reading and writing. They will read text as writers to learn about the writer's craft to help them with understanding the characteristics of good writing and to assist them in creating their own written texts. Students are currently extending their understanding of recount texts, the steps involved in the process of writing and the purpose of basic punctuation. In the next unit of the inquiry: Where We Are In Place and Time, students will explore the conventions of writing in the persuasive genre.

Numeracy

We are continuing to revise Place Value of larger numbers. Students are revising the standard form of numbers, the extended form and the word form. We are also revisiting the rounding up and down of numbers to the nearest ten and to the nearest hundred. Students are looking at counting patterns to develop automatic response accuracy and speed. Decimal place value to hundredths and fractions will also be revised this term in relation to the measurement areas of Length, Perimeter and Area.

Students in Year 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to log into our online service both at home and at school – **Mathletics**. Mathletics can be accessed both at home at school at www.mathletics.com.au with the log in details that have been pasted in diaries and homework books. Often Mathletics will be recommended as a homework task to consolidate across all areas of Mathematics.