



Senior School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 5

Thursday 24th August

Dates:

1st September:
Market Day

5th September: Summer
Round Robin Day 1

8th September: Senior
Hoop Time

15th September: Summer
Round Robin Day 2

18th September: Footy
Walk-a-thon

22nd September: Last
Day Term 3 2.30 pm
dismissal

9th October: Commence
Term 4

Contact Us:

Buckingham Drive,
Rowville 3178

Phone: 9764 5533

Fax: 9764 3297

Email: heany.park.ps
@edumail.vic.gov.au

Transdisciplinary Theme

Sharing the Planet

An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and with other living things; communities and the relationships within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

Central Idea:

Biodiversity relies on maintaining the interdependent balance of organisms within systems.

Key Concepts:

Causation, Connection, Responsibility

An inquiry into:

- Ways in which ecosystems, biomes and environments are interdependent
- How humans' interaction with the environment can affect the balance of systems
- The consequences of imbalance within ecosystems

Learner Profile: Principled

Attitudes: Cooperation, Commitment, Enthusiasm

Approaches to Learning:

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

Research Skills:

Planning and Collecting Data

Thinking Skills:

Acquisition of knowledge and Analysing

Communication Skills:

Recording information

Summative Task: By the end of the unit, Senior students will be able to explain and justify the importance of maintaining a balanced ecosystem. They will be able to discuss human's impact on the environment both positively and negatively.

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

Reading

Students participate in regular guided reading sessions with some students participating in literature discussion groups. During reading sessions students will be encouraged to use strategies to think within the text by:

- gathering information from factual texts and use strategies for remembering it
- remembering where to find information in complex texts so that they can be checked
- remembering information in summary form so that it can be used in discussions and in writing

Students will be encouraged to use strategies to think about the text by:

- evaluating the author's use of a range of reader's tools e.g. illustrations, diagrams, labels, glossary
- using specific vocabulary to talk about texts
- recognizing and discussing aspects of information texts
- critiquing the text as an example of the genre
- thinking critically about informational texts in terms of quality of writing, accuracy and logic of conclusions

Students will be encouraged to use strategies to think beyond the text by:

- forming implicit questions and search for answers in the text
- identifying evidence from the text that supports an argument
- using evidence from the text to support thinking and opinions
- drawing conclusions from information

Writing

Our genres for this unit of inquiry are description and information report. The purpose of a description text is to examine or describe features of a particular object, person or thing. An opening statement identifies and defines the topic. A descriptive text is often part of an information text. Grammar will focus on adverbs and adverbial phrases. An information report describes and informs. The genre presents factual information in an organized way. Grammar will focus on topic sentences and present tense. During spelling lessons students focus on reinforcing their understanding of the different syllable types. They will also learn about scientific morphemes to assist with word meanings

Speaking and listening

Students will be encouraged to listen and ask questions to clarify content during discussions. They will also use language to show how ideas can be explored and extended. They will be supported in developing and explaining a point of view about a text selecting information, ideas and images from the text. They will make presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions, taking into account other perspectives.

Numeracy

Students will be investigating the use of equivalent number sentences involving multiplication and division, and exploring the use of brackets and order of operations to write number sentences. Estimation, measurement and comparison of angles using degrees will be investigated using a protractor. Students will learn to find the degree of angles on a straight line, opposite angles and use these results to find unknown angles. Categorical and numerical data will be collected by observation and displays such as bar graphs, dot plots, side by side column graphs and tables appropriate for the data type, will also be constructed with or without the use of digital technologies. The last Maths Olympiad test will be conducted soon and the final results of the competition will be announced at assembly. Students can continue to use the new look Mathletics at www.mathletics.com both at home and at school.