



# Senior School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 6

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## Dates:

**27<sup>th</sup> October:** IMAX  
Excursion

**30<sup>th</sup> October:** House  
Athletics

**7<sup>th</sup> November:** Melbourne  
Cup Day Public Holiday

**28<sup>th</sup> November:** Parent  
Volunteers Morning Tea

13<sup>th</sup> December: FunFields  
Excursion ( Year 6)

**14<sup>th</sup> December:** HPPS  
Christmas Concert

**15<sup>th</sup> December:** Reports  
sent home

**19<sup>th</sup> December:** 2018  
Meet and Greet

**19<sup>th</sup> December:**  
Graduation 6pm ( Year 6)

**22<sup>nd</sup> December:**

**Last Day 2017**

9am Final Assembly

1.30pm Early Dismissal

## 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 humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and the environment.*

#### Central Idea

Earth is a unique planet within a complex solar system.

#### Key Concepts:

Form, Function, Causation

#### An inquiry into:

- Earth's place in the solar system
- The attributes of Earths that sustain life.
- The possibility of life on other planets
- Earth rotation on its axis

**Learner Profile:** Knowledgeable, Inquirer

**Attitudes:** appreciation, enthusiasm, confidence

#### Approaches to Learning:

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

**Research Skills:** Presenting research findings and Formulating Questions

**Thinking Skills:** Synthesis and Metacognition

**Communication Skills:** Viewing

**Self-Management:** Spatial Awareness

**Social Skills:** Cooperating

**Summative Task:** By the end of the unit, Senior students will be able to identify and explain why the characteristics of Earth make it a unique planet within our solar system.

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## 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

## Reading

Throughout reading sessions students will be working towards understanding how authors often innovate on text structures and play with language features to achieve particular aesthetic, humorous and persuasive purposes and effects.

During reading sessions students will be encouraged to use strategies to think within the text by:

- following complex plots keeping track of multiple events and gathering information
- gathering information from factual texts and use strategies for remembering it
- remembering information in summary form so it can be used in discussion
- noticing and remembering significant attributes of multiple characters
- building meaning across several texts

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

- hypothesizing and discussing the significance of the setting in character development and plot resolution
- recognizing, understanding and discussing symbolism
- comparing perspectives with other readers and building on ideas
- understanding subtexts where the author says one thing but means another

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

- recognizing the writer's use of language to evoke sensory images, feelings or mood
- thinking critically about information in texts in terms of quality of writing, accuracy and the logic of conclusions
- noticing how an author reveals the underlying messages or theme of a text through character, plot and events

## Writing

This Term students will be working at strengthening their descriptive and figurative language skills. They will be endeavoring to make their writing memorable by knowing what makes a story successful.

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# Numeracy

## Numeracy:

As we move into Term 4, many paper test and On Demand electronic testing needs to be done to provide data for the end of year reports in regard to Numeracy. Over the first few weeks of term, these tests will be undertaken in all Senior classes. Some areas of Mathematics will need to be revised depending upon areas of need from the test results

This term, we will be focusing upon the Mathematical areas of Geometry and Location, which includes measuring angles and lines with a protractor and transformation and symmetry. In the area of Measurement we will also be covering Capacity and revising Volume and Mass and relating them to our new unit of inquiry – How The World Works with the Central Idea of *"Earth is a unique planet within a complex solar system"*. It is always exciting and engaging for students to investigate the volume, mass and capacity of the planets and the large numbers that are involved. Finally, the area of Statistics and Probability will involve calculations to find the mean, median and mode of sets of results from survey data and chance experiments.

Mathletics is continually used both at home and at school to practise new skills and revise those taught throughout the year. Regular practise of times tables is always encouraged at home, as well as quick number calculations using all four processes. For example, doubling and halving numbers.

