



Middle School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 6

Thursday 19th October, 2017

Dates:

30th October: House Athletics

7th November: Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday

13th November: Wilson Botanical Gardens (3/4W and 4SB)

20th November: Wilson Botanical Gardens (3DJ, 3DB and 4RW)

28th November: Parent Volunteers Morning Tea

14th December: HPPS Christmas Concert

15th December: Reports sent home

19th December: 2018 Meet and Greet

22nd December:

Last Day 2017

9am Final Assembly

1.30pm Early Dismissal

Transdisciplinary Theme

How We Organise Ourselves

An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organisations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

Central Idea

Physical and virtual spaces provide people with opportunities to make connections and establish a sense of community.

Key Concepts:

Function, Connection, Responsibility

An inquiry into:

- Purpose of public spaces
- Characteristics of different public spaces
- How people use public spaces

Learner Profile: Balanced and Thinkers

Attitudes: Integrity, Respect and Appreciation

Approaches to Learning:

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

Research Skills: Collecting data, Recording data, Organising data, Interpreting data and Presenting research and findings

Thinking Skills: Analysing, Synthesising and Evaluating

Social Skills: Group decision making

Self-Management Skills: Spatial awareness and Organisation

Summative Task: By the end of the unit, Middle School students will be able to create a purposeful public space to explain their understanding how public spaces provide opportunity for the community to establish connections.

Literacy

In Literacy,

Our Writing focus for this term will be built around revising the writing techniques for narrative and exposition. We will also explore the genre of Poetry. Students will be looking at various types of poems such as Haiku, Cinquain, Colour and Diamante.

Reading and comprehension strategies will focus on inference to help students better understand and determine the author's purpose. We will be practicing the skill of summarising using a various of texts, including Information Reports.

Weekly spelling will continue for homework and we will continue looking at spelling rules and conventions with a specific focus on word endings, such as changing the y to i or adding es to form plurals.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, Middle school will be looking at:

- Understanding the connection between common fractions, decimal fractions and percentages. Students will use number lines to understand the relationship between decimal fractions and percentages. They will develop an understanding of how these are used in everyday life.
- collecting data by reading thermometers placed in different areas and present information via a graph. Students will develop the understanding that temperatures vary in different regions, climates and situations.
- exploring the language of location, use grid references and simple scales to locate and identify places on a map. This includes investigating the use of legends, coordinates, longitude, latitude etc
- measuring, ordering and comparing objects using familiar metric units to determine the volume and capacity of various objects.

Ongoing assessment will be continue to determine student's current levels of achievement.

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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