



Junior School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 2



Thursday 22nd March, 2018

Dates:

26th March – 9.00am
House Cross Country

29th March

End of Term 1
(2.30pm dismissal)

Term 2:

16th April

Commence Term 2

19th April- 9.00am

Literacy Parent
Information Session

24th April- 2.30pm

ANZAC
Commemorative
Ceremony

25th April

ANZAC Day Holiday

9th May- 7.00pm

School Council

15th May -9.00am

Digital Learning
Parent Information
Session

25th May – 2.45pm

Celebration of
Learning Assembly

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

Water is essential to life and is a limited resource for many people

Key Concepts:

Function,
Responsibility

An inquiry into:

- Sources of water and distribution of usable water
- How water is used and what happens after it is used
- Responsibility regarding water

Learner Profiles: Knowledgeable and Reflective

Approaches to Learning:

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

Thinking Skills:

- Acquisition of Knowledge:

Self-Management:

- Informed Choices:

Research Skills:

- Collecting Data
- Interpreting data

Communication Skills:

- Writing

Summative Task: By the end of the unit, Junior students will be will reflect on their learning and how they have changed or could change the way they use water and why by using a comparative journal of water usage at the beginning of the unit and at the end of the unit.

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

Texts explored in class will be linked to our Unit of Inquiry to encourage students to build knowledge and make stronger connections about their learning. For the seven weeks of this unit, the following reading skills will be explored:

Sharing the Planet Weekly Reading Foci						
Week 8	Week 9	Week 1 (Term 2)	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Thinking about the text: analysing	Thinking about the text: critiquing	Thinking about the text: critiquing	Thinking beyond the text: predicting	Thinking beyond the text: predicting	Thinking within the text: maintaining fluency	Thinking within the text: solving words

Writing

For our sharing the planet unit, the text types we will be exploring are information report and exposition texts. Students will learn about the purpose and structure of these text types. Co-constructing, experimenting and publishing their own pieces of writing.

Word Study

For the next Unit of Inquiry the junior school have a strong focus on phonological awareness. Our main focus is manipulating sounds, including changing, deleting and adding phonemes to make new words.

We are also looking at sound letter relationships with a focus on short and long vowels and two letter consonant digraphs (ph, sh, ch, th).

Speaking and Listening – Taking Action in Our Learning

Taking action is an integral part of all learning that incorporates students making connections to what they have learned, applying a variety of real life skills, demonstrating an enduring understanding through concepts and reflecting on the attributes of the learner profile and attitudes.

We encourage students to share their learning and any action they are taking throughout the day. We welcome sharing experiences, conversations, artefacts or anything else from outside of school that connects with the learning in the classroom.

Students are supported to present their ideas and learning to their peers by speaking clearly at an appropriate volume and pace.

Numeracy

Our Number and Algebra focus for the coming weeks include:

Place value – continuing to revise this at the child’s point of need including modelling numbers using materials and playing games to improve the automaticity of place value facts

Counting – continuing to revise skip counting from 0 and non 0 starting points and looking for number patterns.

Addition strategies – we will explore the concept of addition, starting with the use of concrete materials and moving toward written formal addition

Subtraction strategies - we will explore the concept of subtraction, starting with the use of concrete materials and moving toward written formal subtraction

For Measurement and Geometry, we will link this to the learning around our inquiry by measuring water and exploring capacity. We will also explore:

Concept of time (duration) – Estimate and describe duration of time

Calendars – identify dates and determine the number of days in each month