



# Senior School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 3



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## Dates:

**15 May** – NAPLAN  
Language Conventions and  
Writing

**16 May** – NAPLAN  
Reading

**17 May** – NAPLAN  
Numeracy

**18 May** – District Cross  
Country( selected  
students)

**21 May** –Senior School  
Celebrations of Learning  
Assembly 9.00am

**29 May** – Winter  
Interschool Round Robin  
Day 1

**11 June** – Queens  
Birthday Holiday

**12 June** – Curriculum Day  
(Pupil Free Day)

**15 June**- Winter  
Interschool Round Robin  
Day 2

**22 June** – Semester 1  
Reports published on  
Compass

**26 June** – Three Ways  
conferences 3.45pm –  
7.15pm

**28 June** – Three Ways  
conferences 3.45pm –  
7.15pm

**29 June** – End of Term 2  
(2.30pm dismissal)

## 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:

Finding peaceful solutions to conflict leads to a better quality of life

### Key Concepts:

Causation, Perspective, Responsibility

### An inquiry into:

- ✓ Cause of conflict (local and global)
- ✓ Human rights and equity
- ✓ Strategies used to resolve conflict
- ✓ Consequences of resolutions

### Learner Profile:

Open- Minded and Caring

### Approaches to Learning:

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

### Social Skills:

- Accepting Responsibility
- Respecting others
- Cooperating, Resolving Conflict
- Group Decision Making

### Communication Skills:

- Listening
- Speaking

**Summative Task:** By the end of the unit, Senior students will demonstrate their understanding of finding peaceful solutions to conflict by their actions and resolutions choices to local and global issues.

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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

## Literacy

During reading sessions students will be encouraged to investigate word meaning in context using contextual clues e.g. looking for clues in the sentences before and after the sentence the word appears in and looking for synonyms and antonyms. Students will learn to distinguish between fact and opinion by thinking about what can be proved and what cannot be proved.

They will use comprehension strategies to compare content from a variety of textual sources (including media and digital texts). They will learn to appreciate and explain how choices in language can influence personal responses to different texts.

### Writing

Our genres for this unit of inquiry are discussion and explanation. The purpose of a discussion text is to present both sides of a point of view. Viewpoints are logically ordered and supported with evidence. Each paragraph begins with a topic sentence and is followed with supportive detail and examples to illustrate the point of view. Grammar will focus on verb tenses, thinking verbs, evaluative language and modality. The purpose of explanation texts is to explain how or why something occurs. Logical sequencing of ideas, general noun groups, conjunctions and passive voice will be a focus. During spelling lessons students will continue to develop their syllabification skills and look at word origins.

### Speaking and listening

Students will be encouraged to make connections between their own experiences and those of people, characters and events represented in texts, drawn from different historical contexts, social contexts, and cultural contexts, to enable them to participate and contribute to discussions.

## Numeracy

These are the areas of focus in Numeracy in the Senior area over the next few weeks:

- Multiplication – in particular, times tables facts, factors, multiples, prime and composite numbers
- Measurement – length, area and perimeter of real life situations
- Decimals – in relation to measurement of length, area and perimeter
- Automatic response – speed and accuracy in completing simple addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems
- Problem Solving – using strategies such as Guess And Check, Drawing A Picture Or Diagram, Using a Table, Working Backwards to solve worded problems

Students use Mathletics at school and it can also be accessed at home to supplement the open ended numeracy tasks that are set for homework. The numeracy homework tasks are revision of tasks that we are completing or have completed at school. Mathletics can be accessed at [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au) and students have their usernames and passwords in their homework books and diaries.

Times tables are an important skill to learn to assist with all areas of mathematics, especially the four processes and the completion of tasks using fractions. All Senior students are focusing upon learning their times tables and it would benefit students to practise these at home. Posters, online games, You Tube videos and card games are freely available and provide a fun way to learn the times tables.