



# Junior School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 2



Thursday 12 March 2020

## Dates:

**12 Mar**

Junior School Family  
Wellbeing Night

School Council Meeting

**13 Mar** 2.30pm

School Assembly

**16 Mar**

Brilliant at Being  
Resilient Performance

**19 Mar**

Mondo Clothing  
Collection

**20 Mar**

Camp Quality Incursion

Junior School  
Celebration of Learning  
Assembly 2.30pm

**27 Mar**

End of Term  
2.30pm Dismal

## TERM 2

**14 Apr**

Commence School

**17 Apr** 2.30pm

School Assembly

**23 Apr**

House Cross Country

**24 Apr** 2.30pm

ANZAC Day  
Commemorative  
Assembly

**8 May** 2.30pm

School Assembly

## Transdisciplinary Theme

### Where We Are in Place and Time

*An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationship between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations; from local and global perspectives.*

#### Central Idea

Homes reflect the cultural, geographical, societal influences and local conditions of the time.

#### Key Concepts:

Form  
Function  
Causation

#### An inquiry into:

- What constitutes a home
- How homes reflect local culture and family values
- Location choices and materials used to build a home

#### Learner Profile:

Open Minded  
Thinker

#### Approaches to Learning:

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

#### Thinking Skills:

- Critical thinking (Analysing and evaluating issues and ideas and forming decisions)

#### Self-Management:

- Organisation (Managing time and tasks effectively)

#### Research Skills:

- Information Literacy (Formulating and planning, data gathering and recording, synthesizing and interpreting, evaluating and communication)

## 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.

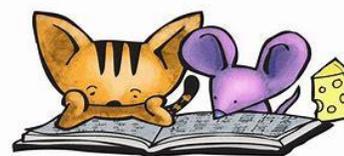
### IB learners are:

Inquirers  
Knowledgeable  
Thinkers  
Communicators  
Principled  
Open-minded  
Caring  
Risk-takers  
Balanced  
Reflective

## Literacy

### Reading

In reading, we will be focusing on critiquing different texts. Students will be asked to state their opinions about texts and then use evidence from the text to support their opinion. This will tie in with an additional focus of being able to analyse texts. We will explore the different aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts along with themes that run across sci-fi, reality and fantasy stories. When reading non-fiction texts, students will explore how they bring their own prior knowledge to reading about topics, and how new knowledge can be gained after reading the text.



### Writing

In writing, we will focus on how to provide a response to a question. Students will have to explain their responses and justify their opinions. Different things that they might be asked to review are: restaurants, games and movies!

As a whole school we are unpacking the 6 plus 1 traits of writing that include

1. Ideas: main message, content, main theme, interesting details, show don't tell
2. Voice: the writer coming through the words, personality behind the words
3. Organization: structure, sequence, logical connections, begins meaningfully and ends with a satisfying closure
4. Word choice: use of rich, colorful precise language that communicates in a way the enlightens the reader
5. Sentence: fluency, rhythm, movement
6. Conventions: mechanical correctness of the piece that includes the five elements of; spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar and paragraphing
7. Presentation: putting effort into and taking pride in how the text looks

### Sight Words

You may have noticed that your child has brought home a sight word list in their reader bag. In Junior school, sight words are tested once a fortnight, i.e., the Friday that we do not have a scheduled assembly. In order to progress to the next level or words, the students must be able to automatically recall the word just by sight and not by sounding out the word. Sight word automaticity is an important skill required for reading. In order to practise the words at home, we recommend playing games with the words such as bingo and snap, writing the words in rainbow colours, using a variety of books and magazines to find the words. Another great idea is to have your child use the words in simple sentences so that they also understand the meaning of the word in context. When your child receives a new list, a focus of about 5-10 words a week is ideal.

## Numeracy

In Maths, we will be learning more about the different types of addition and subtraction strategies they can use to solve equations and problems. Using a variety of hands-on materials and games, students will learn about strategies such as bridging to the next 10, adding and subtracting 9 (add 10, subtract 1) and make to ten from 9, e.g. 9 and 7 is 10 and  $6 = 16$



We will also explore concepts in time such as elapsed time ( how much time is there between 6.00am and 1.00pm), looking at the seasons and months and how to read a calendar.