



Middle School Curriculum Newsletter Unit 2



Thursday 12 March 2020

Dates:

12 Mar

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

23 Mar 2.30pm

Middle School
Celebration of Learning
Assembly

27 Mar

End of Term
2.30pm Dismal

TERM 2

14 Apr

Commence School

17 Apr

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

Evidence of past civilisations can be used to make connections to present day societies

Key Concepts:

Form

Responsibility

Connection

An inquiry into:

- Characteristics of civilisations and societies
- Connections between ancient, past and present
- Implications for the future

Learner Profile:

Thinker

Open Minded

Approaches to Learning:

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

Thinking Skills:

- Reflection and Metacognition

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

Writing

We have recently started working with the Six Plus One Traits of Writing. These include ideas, organization, voice, sentence fluency, conventions and word choice with presentation being the plus one. Over the next few weeks students will explore the traits, including looking at mentor texts and how they can apply them in their writing. The Six Plus One Traits aim to embrace and complement writing sessions. By showing students how writers use the traits in different genres, they can explicitly see the features of good writing across the curriculum.

Spelling

Our focus sounds are

- Y making i as in pyramid
- Trigraph are making the air sound as in square
- Digraph ho making o as in honest
- Trigraph ear making ear as in near
- Graph c making s as in city

Reading

We will continue to focus on aspects of the Fountas and Pinnell reading wheel including,

Summarising

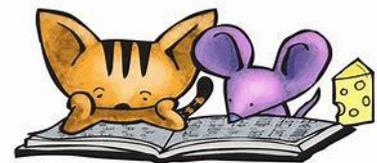
- Identify important ideas in a text and report them in an organised way by finding information about events, objects, animals, and people. The information is usually about an object, character, or event that is connected to the main idea of a paragraph or book.
- Improving student's skills to be able to summarise longer narrative texts in writing and orally

Inferring

- Infer character's feelings and motivations through reading their dialogue and what other characters say about them
- Infer cause and effect in influencing characters' feelings or motives throughout a text

Analysing

- Understand, talk about, write (use graphic organiser) how author has used organisational structures cause/effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion to highlight points.
- Identify point of view for example
- Why do you think the author wrote the book?



Numeracy

In Numeracy we will continue working on effective strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems. We will look at the link between the two processes. Number Talks form a focus here as students discuss the strategies they use to solve different problems. Students will be familiar with the terms jump strategy, doubles, near doubles, making ten and compensation. Volume and capacity will be covered with the focus on students being able to compare capacity of different containers and begin to measure in litres and millilitres. Students will begin looking at the link between multiplication and division as well as working on their times tables facts.

