



Foundation Curriculum Newsletter Unit 2



Friday 19 March 2021

Dates:

22- 26 March: Harmony Week activities (wear Orange on Monday 22 March)

25 March: Easter Raffle
Free Dress Day

30 March: School Photos
(rescheduled date)

4 April: Easter Raffle
Free Dress Day

1 April: 9.15am Whole School House Cross Country

1 April : End of Term
2.30pm Dismissal

TERM 2

19 April: Term 2
Curriculum Day (Student Free Day)

20 April : Term Two Commences for students

23 April: ANZAC Day Commemorative Assembly

30 April: School Assembly

5 May: Mother's Day Celebration

11 May – 21 May
NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5

14 May: 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

Learning about previous generations helps us to understand the relationship between the past and present.

Key Concepts:

Form
Function
Connection

Lines of Inquiry:

- Ways to find out about the past
- How aspects of the past still influence us today
- Why some behaviours and practices have changed or remained the same over time

Learner Profile:

Open Minded
Inquirer

Approaches to Learning:

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

Social Skills:

- Interpersonal Relationships

Research Skills:

- Information Literacy (Data gathering and recording)

Communication Skills:

- Exchanging Information (Listening, Interpreting and Speaking)

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, the Foundation students will be learning to identify and read high frequency words, also to continue focusing on recalling common words. Students will be learning about different strategies they can use while reading, particularly how to maintain fluency and self-correct their reading when what they have read doesn't make sense. Other reading strategies they will be learning about are using picture clues to help with their reading and to make predictions based on information from the pictures. Students will be developing strategies used to summarise a text and retell events orally in the correct sequence.

They have been practising making one to one correspondence whilst reading words. During guided reading, students will read independently using a quiet voice, read a set text to the teacher in their group also complete word work. Once a week they will use iPads and focus on literacy activities on Reading Eggs.

Writing

In Writing, the Foundation students will explore factual texts. They will make a drawing or series of drawings of objects and then talk or write about how these objects have changed over time. (For example, toys or cars). They will develop their skills in selecting interesting factual information to include in a piece of writing to create a booklet. Students will continue to write about their personal experiences and to draw a matching picture.

Writing conventions we will focus on include, correct letter formation, sentence structure, text direction, use of upper and lower case letters and separation of words. Students will use dotted third lines to ensure their letters are spaced and placed correctly on the lines.

Our SMART Spelling program will continue throughout the term reinforcing the belief that teaching and learning is most effective when it is meaningful and connected to experiences. Foundation students' will develop a deeper understanding of sounds, letters and common words through an explicit teaching approach. Students will also be engaged in classroom discussions exploring different thoughts and ideas from students in relation to the focus word and sounds of the week.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, the Foundation students will be learning to describe, estimate, compare and measure length. They will be comparing different lengths of objects using formal and informal units. Students will develop their skills in measuring and ordering objects from shortest to longest and longest to shortest. Another important skill is to subitise by telling the number of objects in a small collection without counting the objects. Games with dots, e.g. Roll and Match, Dice & Dominoes Number Race, will support students with subitising without counting all. They will explore Number Bonds by starting with a whole number and showing how the number is split. For example, 5 can be split as 3 and 2 or 2 and 3. Students will continue to sing the days of the week song and sequence daily events. They will write and draw about the things they do at school and home during the morning, afternoon and night time. A key focus for our unit is to connect number names, numerals and quantities 10-20 and then to compare and order these numbers.

Progressive Assessment

As we are wrapping up our first unit of inquiry 'Who we Are' you will receive 6 weeks of learning assessment based on writing, numeracy and unit of inquiry. It will be released on the 1st April, via Compass. Assessment will also be given on the following approaches to learning, communication and social skills. Students have had opportunities to develop these skills through sharing of the 'Me Bag' and working with their buddies to complete a Venn diagram on displaying similarities and differences. They have been sharing their emotions and feelings through discussions and using our emotional check in wall each day.