



Senior 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

8th – 10th May

NAPLAN Assessment

9th May- 7.00pm

School Council

15th May -9.00am

Digital Learning
Parent Information
Session

21st May – 9.00am

Celebration of
Learning Assembly

Transdisciplinary Theme

Who We Are

An inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human

Central Idea

Changes people experience at different stages of their lives affect their evolving sense of self

Key Concepts: Change, Responsibility, Connection

Lines of inquiry

- Change that occur throughout life
- Factors that contribute to wellbeing during adolescence
- The contribution of relationships to our self-concept

Learner Profile: Balanced

Approaches to Learning:

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

Thinking Skills:

- Application
- Dialectical Thought

Social Skills

- Adopting a variety of group roles

Self-Management:

- Informed Choice:

Research Skills:

- Formulating Questions
- Presenting research findings

Summative Task: By the end of the unit, the Senior school students will create a timeline reflecting the changes people experience at different stages of their lives, how these events can affect their sense of self and a reflection of their new understandings.

Literacy

Reading

During reading sessions students will be encouraged to use strategies to think within the text by:

- gathering information from factual texts and use strategies for remembering it
- remembering where to find information in complex texts so that they can be checked

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

- remembering information in summary form so that it can be used in discussions and in writing

Students will be encouraged to use strategies to think about the text by:

- evaluating the author's use of a range of reader's tools e.g. illustrations, diagrams, labels, glossary
- using specific vocabulary to talk about texts
- recognizing and discussing aspects of information texts
- critiquing the text as an example of the genre
- thinking critically about informational texts in terms of quality of writing, accuracy and logic of conclusions

Students will be encouraged to use strategies to think beyond the text by:

- forming implicit questions and search for answers in the text
- identifying evidence from the text that supports an argument
- using evidence from the text to support thinking and opinions
- drawing conclusions from information

Writing

Our genres for this unit of inquiry are information report and explanation. An information report describes and informs. The genre presents factual information in an organized way. Grammar will focus on topic sentences and present tense. During spelling lessons students focus on reinforcing their understanding of the different syllable types. They will also learn about scientific morphemes to assist with word meanings.

An explanation text explains how or why something occurs. It describes the how of a process and gives reasons for why something occurs. Technical language is used, action verbs and present tense. Features such as; bullet points, text boxes, diagrams and charts etc. maybe included. Revising and careful editing will be encouraged.

Speaking and listening

Students will be encouraged to listen and ask questions to clarify content during discussions. They will also use language to show how ideas can be explored and extended. They will be supported in developing and explaining a point of view about a text selecting information, ideas and images from the text. They will make presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions, taking into account other perspectives.

Numeracy

Over the next few weeks the students in the Senior area will be learning about Patterns in Number and Algebra. Students will learn to continue and create sequences involving whole numbers, fractions and decimals resulting from addition and subtraction and also describe the rule used to create the sequence. Additionally, the use equivalent number sentences involving multiplication and division to find unknown quantities will be investigated, and the use of brackets and order of operations to write number sentences will be explored. Mathematical algorithms will be followed and designed to solve mathematical problems involving branching and repetition.

Mathletics is used in the classroom to practise the areas of Numeracy covered each week with engaging exercises that challenge and provide feedback upon success. Students have their log in details in their diaries and homework books, and extra homework in Numeracy can be obtained by accessing this online resource. This term, all Senior students will be completing a Maths Olympiad pre-test in order to be short listed for the Maths Olympiad team of at least 25 students and they will be notified of their success. Tests are conducted by the Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads association in May, June, July, August and September and the results are collected and there are awards for students in the top percentages. Mrs. Lisa Hill will begin lessons with these selected students during Term 2 and Term 3, working on problem solving strategies and suggested worded problems to assist this group with the tests that are set by the APSMO. Many students will be encouraged to participate in this worthwhile competition to improve their problem solving skills in Numeracy.