



Grade 5/6 2023

Term 1 Newsletter

Welcome back to school for 2023! We are looking forward to working with you this year and supporting your child on their learning journey for 2023.

As it is the beginning of a new school year, we would like to kindly remind all families to please make sure your student's belongings are clearly labelled to help keep track of them.

PVNPS is continuing to run our Nude Food program which encourages all students in the school to have a wrapper free lunch box every Tuesday and Thursday, and to only have reusable containers.

The 5/6 Team:

5/6A: Brittany Ansons **ES:** Antoinette El Bazouni

5/6B: Michael Cannizzaro

5/6C: Susan Righele **ES:** Amanda Douvos

5/6D: Monique Jones (team leader) **ES:** Ester Moretti

Important Dates Term 1

Week	Date	Event
Week 3	15 & 16 February	Meet the Teacher Nights
	15th February	Junior School Council Leadership Day
	17th February	Interschool Sport Round 1 vs Coburg North PS HOME
Week 4	21st February	Coburg District Swimming Trials
	24th February	Interschool Sport Round 2 vs Coburg West PS AWAY
Week 5	2nd March	SEDA AFL clinic begins for 4 weeks
		No Interschool Sport this week - bye
Week 6	9th March	Grade 6 - Year 7 Transition Information Session
	10th March	Interschool Sport Round 4 vs Pascoe Vale South PS AWAY
Week 7	13th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
	14th March	Welcome Picnic 3:30pm
	15th March	NAPLAN Day 1
	16th March	NAPLAN Day 2

	17th March	NAPLAN Day 3
	17th March	Interschool Sport Round 5 vs Moreland PS AWAY
	17th March	National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
Week 8		NAPLAN catch up sessions will run this week
	22nd March	Ramadan begins
	22nd March	School Photos
	22nd March	Harmony Day
	24th March	Interschool Sport Round 6 vs Pascoe Vale PS HOME
Week 9	31st March	Interschool Sport Round 7 vs St Olivers PS HOME
Week 10	6th April	Last day of Term 1 - 2:30pm dismissal
	7th April	Good Friday public holiday
<i>INTERSCHOOL SPORT FINALS DATES TO BE CONFIRMED</i>		

Important Dates throughout the year:

This year's 5/6 Camp will be held at Alexandra Adventure Resort from Monday 10th July – Wednesday 12th July. Information will come home in Week 3.

DISCOVERY

In Term 1, the students will explore Civics and Citizenship through inquiring into why people make rules and laws. They will consider the purpose of rules within a local context and compare this to other areas in Australia and then further abroad to other countries. Students will be prompted by questions such as:

- Why do people make rules and laws?
- Who benefits from the rules that are created?
- How can you make a positive difference in the creation of new rules?

Students will create a discovery question around mid-term. Teachers will encourage and scaffold students' abilities in researching and answering their questions in detail. Students will take part in flexible, creative and critical thinking to answer their question in a way that represents their interests, capabilities and strengths.

READING

Students will participate in the Reader's Workshop model. Through the mini lesson, teachers will focus on modelling reading skills this term that focus significantly on developing our ability to be critical readers. We will focus on both fiction and nonfiction texts this term. In non-fiction texts we will look at ways authors structure texts and how they write for different audiences and purposes. Our study of fictional texts this term will involve analysing the viewpoint of the author and different characters.

Students will:

- Identify the narrative voice
- Identify and compare the character's views
- Describe how the author's writing influences us as readers

We will also be focusing on developing students' abilities to make connections to texts in a variety of ways such as predicting, questioning, visualising, inferring and summarising.

Things you can do at home to support your child's learning:

- Have a selection of reading materials available – library books (non-fiction and fiction), kids' cookery books, simple timetables, newspapers and magazines, catalogues and any other reading that supports your child's current interest
- Encourage your child to retell favourite stories or parts of stories in their own words. Play card games and board games together
- Reading makes more sense if your child can relate it to their own life. Help them to make connections between what they are reading and their own lives and experiences. For example, "We saw a big mountain in that book, what is our mountain called, and where did the name come from?"
- Look for opportunities for your child to read wherever you are – signs, advertising billboards, junk mail, recipes
- Show your child that reading is essential and important to you by letting them see you reading magazines, books, newspapers
- Encourage your child to read a range of different genres and types of texts.

WRITING

Students will be learning to:

Writing in Term 1 will begin with creating persuasive writing pieces. We will focus on precise and strong vocabulary combined with persuasive techniques to create strong arguments. Students will use scaffolded paragraph structures to enable them to write succinct, persuasive pieces of writing. Following our persuasive writing unit, we will look at writing engaging narratives for different audiences and purposes. We will use modelled texts to see different ways authors structure their sentences and stories to develop engaging texts.

Things you can do at home to support your child's learning with Writing:

- Short and simple games could involve finding how many little words can be found using the letters in the word 'elephant'
- Encourage your child to write about experiences outside of school
- Encourage your child to share their writing with you
- Encourage your child to create stories and publish them

MATHS

Topics covered this term:

- **Place value** - how numbers are organised and the importance of 0 in numbers. We will look at how to read large numbers and write numbers in word and number forms.
- **Number properties** - square, triangular, prime and composite numbers. We will focus on identifying prime and composite numbers and why they are important and how to calculate square and triangular numbers.
- **Negative numbers (integers)** and where we see them in our world and how we can place them on a number line.
- **2D shapes & 3D objects** - how to connect a three-dimensional object with its net and where we see them in the real world.
- **Angles** - classifying angles as acute, right, obtuse, straight, reflex or revolutions. Estimating the size of an angle and using a protractor to measure it.
- **Decimals** - developing an understanding of how numbers smaller than 0 are organised and represented. Being able to compare, order and represent decimals, as well as add, subtract, multiply and divide them.
- **Graphing** - collecting and representing data in different ways such as column graphs, dot plots, and tables. Looking at data found in other locations and interpreting it.

Things you can do at home to support your child's learning:

- Do addition and subtraction problems in their heads
- Measure ingredients while cooking or baking at home.
- Guess the weight of different items at the supermarket.
- Make a map of your home.
- Identify 2D shapes and 3D objects around your home.
- Discuss how maths is used in everyday life - price per 100g at the supermarket, doing budgets and banking etc.
- Try making different types of patterns by drumming, clapping, stamping, dancing or drawing patterns that repeat.

Involve your child in:

- Telling the time – o'clock, half past, quarter to
- Learning their times tables
- Repeating and remembering telephone numbers they use a lot
- Cooking and using maths in the kitchen

MINDFULNESS

Daily mindfulness or wellbeing sessions will run in all classrooms.

HOMEWORK POLICY

5/6 HOMEWORK POLICY 2023

Homework is designed to practise skills learned in the classroom, not the learning of new material. The expectation for homework in the 5/6 area is for students to complete the following tasks listed below.

READING

Reading for a minimum of 20 minutes every night

Students may choose to read their Book Club novel OR read a novel or text of their choice which they are able to read independently

Some students use an online reading program called Epic (www.getepic.com). Students have their own profiles, and can access Epic using the code provided by their teacher. This is free for the students during the school day, and possibly for a few hours after school. We do not expect parents to pay for their child to use this program at home

Helpful resource to assist your child with their reading:

You may wish to ask/use the prompts from the '5/6 Reading Prompts' provided.

SPELLING:

Study words from their spelling list. Students will complete a spelling test in class each Friday.

We encourage students to complete Look Cover Write Check (LCWC) or other forms of repetitive writing of their spelling words. Practising using the words in sentences is also a beneficial way to develop their word knowledge.

NUMERACY:

Practising times tables, these should be able to be recalled as quickly as possible!

Students can also log on to Essential Assessment at: <https://www.essentialassessment.com.au> and complete 'My Numeracy' and/or 'Sunset Maths' tasks.

(As soon as Essential Assessment has been set up, classroom teachers will send the login details home for your child)

The staff at PVNPS hope homework expectations will improve the students' engagement with their homework and make it more relevant to their learning. It also takes into account the many additional activities (such as sport, dance, clubs, etc.) that children are involved in after school, and the need for them to have time to engage in play or friendship activities. We are also mindful that parents and children are very busy and understand that spending quality time together is of the utmost

importance. Therefore, we encourage families to spend their time enjoying activities together and having quality conversations.

We look forward to a successful year together.

Monique Jones, Brittany Ansons, Michael Cannizzaro and Susan Righele