

Grade 5/6 Team Update

Term 2



Welcome to Term 2! Lots of things are happening this term and some of them are explained in more detail in this newsletter. We will continue our monthly newsletters written by students. If we haven't got your email address, please write it in your child's diary and ask them to show us.

ANZAC Day Assembly

We are running an ANZAC Day Assembly on Friday 24th April. Students will spend much of next week preparing speeches and assembly items about ANZAC Day. We hope that you can join us for an early assembly at 2:15pm.

Genius Hour Exhibition – WEDNESDAY 3rd JUNE 9am to 11am SAVE THE DATE!!

There are six more Genius Hour sessions left. Please note that due to the 26th Story Treehouse excursion, we will have our next session on **Wednesday 22nd April**. **There will be no session on Friday 24th April due to Interschool Sports and our ANZAC Day celebrations.** Our Genius Hour Exhibition is planned for Wednesday 3rd June. All students will have their Genius Hour project on display along with photos of its creation. We hope to arrange a guest speaker. If you know of anyone who could talk about the importance of persistence, thinking creatively and problem solving we would love to hear from you.

Interschool Sports

Interschool Sport starts this term. All students will be involved in rounders, t-ball, netball or, in a first Upper Plenty, our very own football team! Our games usually start at 12 noon and take place on Fridays. Parents are always welcome to join us. Please check with Miss Fenech or us on the day in case there are any late changes or cancellations due to weather. The fixture is below. The home team is named first. All our games are 'away' games. **Please note that the first round will be played in the morning** due to our ANZAC assembly.

Round 1 – April 24 Kinglake PS v UPPS	Round 2 – May 1 Doreen PS v UPPS	Round 3 – May 8 Middle Kinglake v UPPS
Round 4 – May 15 Ivanhoe v UPPS	Round 5 – May 22 Kinglake West v UPPS	Catch Up Round – May 29 (To be used if games are cancelled due to wet weather)
Finals (Top 2 teams in each sport) Home game for top teams. School to negotiate date and time.		

Allambee Camp

An information letter, permission form, medical form and payment slip will be sent home shortly. Once we finalise numbers we will know if we are able to take parent helpers. Stay tuned if you fancy four days of adventure with us!

5/6 Team Student & Parent Opinion Survey

At the end of last term, we asked students to complete a Student Opinion Survey. You may have seen some of the questions as it was a homework task. The survey results were very positive and we have already used some of the suggestions to guide our plans for Term 2. We shared the results of the first part of the survey at this week's class meeting and will share the second part at next week's meeting. Our class meetings are run by students and held on Mondays at 2:45pm. Parents are welcome to attend too.

We thought you may like to see what students listed as the most important thing they learnt in Term 1. All responses come directly from the student response section in the survey. Although anonymous, they still provide a good insight into our students' thoughts on their own learning.

What is the most important thing you have learnt this term (Term 1)?

- How to solve problems with improper fractions
- How to write an interesting persuasive text
- How to take my time in everything I do that involves learning
- How to add fractions and do wood work
- Maths because in my maths test I was confident in myself and I think I did great on it!
- How to write neater and my maths
- Maths
- Many things like leadership skills
- That everyone has to work as a team because there is no I in team
- Reading and writing
- How to do x and – in maths
- About Earth Hour
- In art, spelling, reading and writing persuasive pieces
- How to be sustainable and look after the environment
- Some new words that I can use at home. For example; ravenous means starving
- It is important to be sustainable
- Maths, reading, writing and rotations
- Don't know what the most important thing I've learnt is but I've learnt that you don't bid before 'Any opening bids' in an auction and that you shouldn't use 'it' every time in a piece of writing
- Decimal points in maths and discussion texts in writing
- Spelling
- How to write an argument with words you should use and other things too
- How to make a cat scratcher for Genius Hour
- Maths and PE
- To write things in your diary so you don't forget things
- To not stress the little things

5/6 Team Student & Parent Opinion Survey continued

We would like to gather some information about parent thoughts and opinions. Therefore, we have created a parent opinion survey. There are three ways to complete the survey:

1. Click on the link sent in the email you receive
2. Go to our class blog. Click on the 'Parents' tab and then click on 'Parent Opinion Survey'
3. Request a hard copy be sent home, fill it in and return it. Due to our focus on sustainability, we will only send hard copies home if they are requested.

Feedback from the surveys will help us with future plans. Last year, we were able to make some parent wishes come true!

Homework & Home Reading

Our aim for homework this year is to develop habits and provide tasks that will make the transition to Secondary School homework more seamless. Diaries are very important in keeping track of homework and due dates. We ask that parents look at and sign the diaries weekly.

Flipped Homework: Students will be asked to prepare for lessons at school. This may involve reading, research or watching a short video clip online. There may be a quiz, multiple choice questions or short response required. The knowledge gained from completing the Flipped Homework will be used in lessons at school. This is usually connected with our Inquiry topic.

Reading: Students are expected to read for 15 minutes each school night. Students should write the title of the text read, the total number of nights read and a sentence about the text in their diaries.

Research Projects: We will have two research projects this term. The first one is a free choice research project (feedback from Student Opinion Survey responses). The project aims to develop time management, organisation and research skills along with providing students an opportunity to choose how to present their projects. There is also a speaking and listening component. The research project homework sheet came home this week along with the assessment marking guide.

Spelling Homework: Students receive 8 – 10 spelling words every Monday that they must write out each night and hand in on Friday. This term there is also a 'Spelling Homework Tasks' grid. Students are to select two activities to complete each week. This was a student suggestion from our Term 1 Student Opinion Survey. All tasks should be completed in homework books.

Numeracy Homework: Numeracy homework is usually handed out on a Thursday and due the following Monday. All students have a 'Numeracy Homework' display folder to keep their homework in. Numeracy homework is usually one sheet with revision problems from the week's lessons.

Overnight Homework: Occasionally, students may be asked to complete a short task overnight (as this happens at Secondary School). It should take no longer than 10 - 15 minutes. This is another homework approach from our Student Opinion Survey.

Finishing Off School Work: If students use their time unwisely at school they will be asked to complete the work at home. This is their responsibility and not yours.

Please note that this does not apply if a student uses all their class time well and doesn't finish the task.

Optional Homework: Through our Student Opinion Survey, some students have requested extra homework. Students may like to complete tasks on Mathletics or read our class blog, post comments and/or reply to comments.

Also this term...

- Miss Newton & Mr Sinclair (pre service teachers)
- #globalpal Twitter project (ongoing)
- NAPLAN (May 12th – 14th for Grade 5s)
- Education Week Maths Activity Day (18th May)
- Friendship Day / Yellow Day (19th June)
- Reports (end of Term 2)
- Student Led Conferences (25th June)

Information about the above events/activities will be sent home throughout the term through the school newsletter, class newsletter or parent emails.

Please keep an eye out in the student written newsletter for a 'heads up' on events and visit the class blog often to keep up to date.

Thank you for your support throughout Term 1. We are looking forward to another exciting term and hope you are too!

Amy & Carolyn

Have you subscribed to our class blog?

The address is <http://upps56team.global2.vic.edu.au>. Look for the 'Subscribe' option on the right hand side and type in your email address.



Check out the 'Parents' tab for information on our literacy, numeracy and inquiry curriculum focuses!