

# Year 5 and 6 Newsletter

Term 3, 2017

**WELCOME**, parents and Year 5/6 students, to Term 3!  
It's another busy and exciting term with new Inquiry topics, excursions, swimming and more!

## Maths...

This term will be another busy term for Maths in Year 5/6. We aim to ensure each session is engaging and challenging for each student.

In Year 5, students are exploring simple financial plans while learning about GST and percentages. Students have been tasked to plan and budget our Term 3 excursion for our Inquiry unit on health. No-one knows where we're going yet, but we do know that it will be a rich and challenging learning task!

In Year 6, in Number, we are exploring prime, composite, square and triangular numbers as well as using order of operations to solve complex equations. We will also consolidate our work on fractions, decimals and percentages. The Measurement and Geometry focus for the term will be converting between metric units of length, mass and capacity. Students will also explore the relationships between perimeter and area. Students will have the opportunity to revise their knowledge of chance experiments with trials, predict likely outcomes, distinguish from surprising results and interpret secondary data. Bring on Term 3!

## English...

In Term 3, students will continue to develop their reading skills through the CAFE reading program. Please continue to support your child by encouraging them to read widely at home and discuss aspects of the text as this will reinforce the learning they are doing with us in the classroom.

In writing we will continue to use the Seven Steps to Writing Success. Students will also have the opportunity to further develop their speaking and listening skills through the continuation of Socratic Seminars and Debating. Don't forget that we love students to share their Socratic Seminar and debate topics at home so that they can gain the benefit of alternative points of view prior to contributing in class.

Finally, teachers feel that students' reading stamina, awareness and skills are high enough to begin Literature Clubs this term! Students will form groups to read a text taking it in turns to be responsible for driving the discussion in ongoing Lit Club meetings. We can't wait!

## Snapshot:

Year 5:

- Reading: expanding vocabulary, exploring themes, Lit Club
- Seven Steps: Show Don't Tell, Ban the Boring
- Writing Text Types: response, poetry

Year 6:

- Reading: expanding vocabulary, exploring themes, non-fiction texts, Lit Club
- Seven Steps: story graphing, Dynamic Dialogue, Ban the Boring
- Writing Text Types: explanation, poetry

## Inquiry...

In Year 5, students are studying *Health: The Ups and Downs*. We are exploring the four domains of health; physical, emotional, social and spiritual, and it will hopefully be a deeply reflective and meaningful unit. In Maths, students are in the process of planning and budgeting for their health excursion and at this point in time we are as likely to be on the bus to Bounce as we are to catch the train to the Thousand Steps in the Dandenongs. Stay tuned! Also (brace yourselves for this now, parents...) midway through the term, students will be learning about puberty. That's right - PUBERTY! So now is the time to do a bit of preparation and gird yourselves for some tough questions. Please feel free to chat with your child's teacher if you're unsure on how to approach this topic at home.

The current Year 6 inquiry unit on Creativity is coming to a close as our students use their knowledge of the creative and production process, market research and advertising to produce a creative product of their choice. For the 'Action' phase of their learning, students have chosen to host an open afternoon where you will be able to experience, purchase or bid on student presentations, artwork and products. The event will be held in the Year 5/6 building from 2.45 – 3.30pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August and monies raised will go toward purchasing equipment for the new Parkhill TV studio. Keep an eye out for more advertising, we would love to see you there.

In the second half of the term students will continue their investigations, delving this time into the potential impacts of humans on the natural world. We will investigate sustainability and begin our unit by visiting Federation Square and looking at the many and varied techniques used to make the site a [carbon neutral city precinct](#).

Year 6 students are also looking forward to their excursion into the city on Thursday 3rd August. Students are exploring Graffiti as an Art Form in Visual Art and will participate in a tour of Melbourne's laneways looking at the street art.

## Transition: Year 6 to 7

Transition paperwork is flying between schools behind the scenes here as transition coordinators in the local area work hard to make sure your child has a place in a secondary school next year.

Parents of Year 6 students: if you haven't yet completed your application for a place it is not too late! If you need another copy please request one from the Year 6 team as soon as possible. Secondary schools use this information to begin their enrolment procedures.

Places at secondary schools will be communicated to primary schools very soon, but the date you all want to write in your diaries is **Wednesday 9th of August**. That is when you will receive notification of a place offered to you. Hopefully, it is the secondary school you requested, but it may not be. Secondary schools have a number of restrictions placed on them in regard to accepting students out of their zone and sometimes they need to make a difficult decision. It isn't personal. If you have any questions, please do contact the Year 6 team.

And for all those Year 5s listening: you might want to start thinking about what secondary school you would like to apply for next year. Now's a great time to go on school tours and check out programs and features that might appeal to your own learning interests. 2018 isn't that far away...

## Parkhill TV... (PHTV)

Don't forget to log onto the Parkhill website each week to view Parkhill TV. The students have been working hard in class to produce some amazing episodes.

PHTV is a great way of seeing what is happening around the school and keeping up to date with upcoming events. Episodes are uploaded each Monday onto the school website.

<http://parkhillps.vic.edu.au/>

Over the coming weeks we look forward to showcasing the enormous talent of the Year 5 and 6 students.

### Sport...

Friday sport training continues between 10-11am, leading up to our Winter Round Robin which is happening on Friday 11th August. All 5/6 students will represent our school in netball, football, volleyball, soccer rounders or kickball.

There is a lot of excitement surrounding the Basketball Round Robin which is held at Nunawading Basketball Stadium on Friday 8th September. Tryouts will occur on August 3rd and 4th during lunchtime. Mrs Crane will be coaching the girls and Mr Grinter will be coaching the boys. Good luck!



### Building Update...

It's exciting to see our school transformation in full swing. Learning Community One is rising from the ground each day with the slab for Learning Community Two due to be poured in the coming weeks.

We were very lucky that the finishing touches were put on the Year 5/6 building over the holidays. Our new flexible learning 'Hub' and the Parkhill TV studio are both finished and already being used by the students.

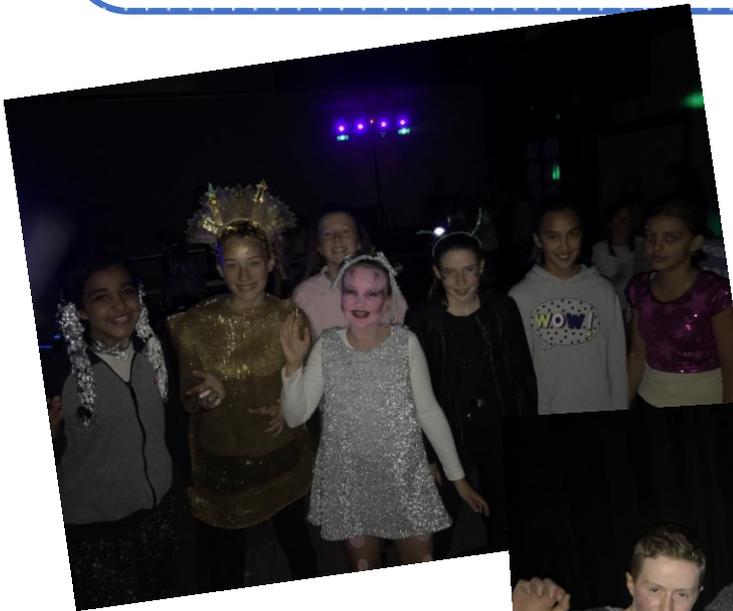
The 'Hub' provides students and teachers an additional learning space which can be used for one on one teaching, small group work and whole year level activities. The new Parkhill TV studio has a large green screen installed along with studio lighting and filming equipment.

As a combined Year 5 and 6 group, the students developed their own essential agreement on how the 'Hub' would be used. The essential agreement is as follows:

- We will keep noise to a minimum and use indoor voices.
- No balls will be used inside the 'Hub'.
- We will move through the 'Hub' in an appropriate manner.
- Before entering the 'Hub' we will ensure our shoes are clean.
- We will ensure the "Hub' remains tidy by leaving the area the way we found it.

### Sci-Fi Futuristic Disco

Once again the fabulous Parkhill PFA hosted a student Disco on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June. The event was a resounding success and our engaged students took to the theme, dressing up in all manner of futuristic attire. The Boy vs Girl dance off caused an uproar as the girls dominated, however it also highlighted the many and varied 'dance move' talents across years three to six. Many thanks to all parents who assisted in hosting the disco, we all had a ball!



### Year 5 Bioeyes Incursion...

In week 6, students from Year 5 will be participating in the Bioeyes incursion. Over the course of the week, students observe zebrafish behaviour and follow the development of resulting embryos. Each day, just like research scientists in the laboratory, students hypothesise and test ideas, ask questions, record findings, and think critically about the impact scientific research has on our community.

### TERM 3 DATES

August 1:	Swimming begins ICAS English
August 11:	Winter RR
August 15:	3-Way Conferences ICAS Maths
August 16:	3-Way Conferences
Sept 1:	Father's Day Stall
Sept 4:	Swimming Carnival
Sept 8:	Book parade!
Sept 15:	Basketball RR
Sept 22:	Footy Colours Day