

Year 5/6 End of Term 1 Newsletter

Empower students to be critical, reflective and self-directed learners

What it's like to be a leader



Being a leader has been an amazing experience so far this year. It has helped to improve our confidence and has set the challenge for us to be the best we can be in all areas. The challenges of being a leader include having to manage our time wisely, because leadership responsibilities take up extra time. We are learning to manage our time really carefully because we need to fit in a lot! We know that being a leader means we need to be very responsible and organised. We need to be on our best behavior and show that we are good role models of the school.

To be a leader you have to be very committed to leadership and be willing to use spare time like lunch and snack. We have been able to improve our confidence by doing assemblies in front of the whole school and being able to make friends with the people we work with. The best part of being a leader is being able to build strong relationships with other people and learn more about the school and the people within it.

By
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Literacy

In Literacy students have been excited to learn new skills when writing narratives and persuasive pieces. They have been engaged in independent projects during the latter part of the term developing arguments around topics that interest and inspire them. Consolidation and further development of independent reading skills have been a focus this term. Students have shown their ability to respond to a text of their choice in a variety of ways including critiquing and text analysis. Every student is learning at their own level and learning is personalised to cater for this. Reading Eggs is a very successful program that the students use to develop their comprehension skills in a fun, online environment at their own reading level. Each student should be very proud of what they have achieved this term in Literacy!

Maths

This Term students have been busy learning new concepts and consolidating their knowledge of place value to transfer and apply to the 4 operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Students in Year 5 have been building upon their understanding of place value and that it extends to tenths, hundredths and thousandths. While working with decimal numbers students have built their understanding by renaming, comparing and ordering numbers. Some students have extended beyond this and have begun adding, subtracting and multiplying with decimal numbers. Students in Year 6 have been consolidating their understanding of place value and have been comparing and ordering decimal numbers as well as solving problems by using addition, subtraction and multiplication. Students have also been linking decimal numbers to real life, such as with money.

Inquiry and Science

Year 5 Science

This term, the Year 5 students explored the Desert Survivors unit. Students worked collaboratively in small groups to explore and investigate how leaves can change over time in an enclosed plastic bag, without their natural environment. It was fantastic to see students make predictions, observations and compare results of how their bagged leaves would adapt during biological science sessions. They were very surprised to see physical changes of colour, size and smell during the investigation!

Year 6 Science

This term, the Year 6 science students have been investigating mysterious micro-organisms. Starting with an investigation into yeast, they explored how these micro-organisms and their discovery have improved our modern lifestyle. They were all very surprised to know that these amazing micro-organisms can be found in everyday foods. Their experiment involving bottles and balloons allowed them to discover that yeast needs a very particular diet and environment to thrive, helping them to understand that yeast feeds on sugar to create carbon dioxide waste. However, they also learned that Micro-organisms are not always beneficial in the kitchen, which was apparent in the investigation of mouldy bread. (Don't worry parents, this was of course, a well prepared, safe and hygienic scientific experiment!)

Inquiry

Students explored a Diverse and Connected World this term. The teachers were very fascinated to hear about students' families, cultures and experiences from all around the world! Students focused on how Australia is different and similar to other places and chose their own country on which to base their project. Students researched the country's culture, religion, population and geographical information and collated their information to present an assessment piece of their choice. What a fantastic experience for teachers to learn from students about different countries!



Cultural Diversity Week

This year the theme for Cultural Diversity Week was 'Proud to Belong'. As part of our Social and Emotional Learning program students proudly shared their cultures and traditions, drawing their unique handprint to celebrate and share all the cultures that are special to them on their handprint.