

YEARS 5&6 NEWS

Term 1

2014

Who has the power?



This term's **Inquiry** is all about having power in Australia. Our essential questions are:

- What are the key features of the Australian political, government and legal systems?
- How are decisions made at home, school and government?
- How can we bring about change?

English this term...



Reading will involve focus groups that will concentrate on various comprehension strategies. In **Writing** we will continue the use of the Writer's Notebook. Please ask your child to explain it to you. **Spelling** will include the exploration of a range of strategies and spelling patterns in the English language.

Term 1 Maths...



In **mathematics** this term we will be covering Number and Algebra, Statistics and Probability, Measurement & Geometry, with a particular focus on mapping and location in relation to our inquiry topic and trip to Canberra.

Our Years 5 & 6 Staff

5/6 GP Maria Giannone-Perri
5/6 CH Leanne Chidgey & Gabby Hutchison
5/6 D Michelle Dodson
5/6 E Simone Elimelech

Welcome back everyone!

Welcome to another exciting and fun-filled year in Year 5 & 6 at Syndal South Primary School. We also welcome Mrs. Karina Bartlett to 5/6GP, who will be joining our camp to Canberra next week. Already we the students have experienced an incursion in which they were able to partake in a beautiful Japanese tea ceremony. They are sounding lovely in choir and when playing the bells. Aerobics teams are well on their way. Year 5s have had lots of fun with their buddies in Prep land, while the Year 6s have all received their leadership positions, and not to mention their snazzy Year 6 jumpers! We wish all students a wonderful year 2014. To the Year 5s – show us what you can do and develop those leadership skills. To the Year 6s – make the most of your final year at Syndal South Primary and give it your all!



Japanese Tea Ceremony 13 Feb

Take it higher!



In Japanese Term 1

- History of the Edo period
- What are samurai?
- Advanced greetings and expressions in Japanese. Use more Japanese in the class!!
- Hiragana reading assessment

Eriko Miyagi

Music Term 1

The Theme for term one in all music classes is learning to play and use The Federation Bells. The Bells are historic pieces of our Australian Heritage. They were specifically made to celebrate our 100 years of Federation, in 2001."They provide an exciting way to engage people of all ages in a musical experience...The Federation HandBells were designed by physiist and instrument maker, Dr Neil McLachlan and sculptor Anton Hasell. They are the world's first true harmonic bells. Each set consists of 24 chromatic notes...The bells are struck with a mallet and can be played individually or in the style of a xylophone."

Other activities will hone singing, planning and creating music.

A theme of Australian songs will also feature in term 1 and 2.

I have used the photos and music from my recent trip to Vietnam to reinforce the specialness of using bells in music and within many aspects of our multicultural society.

It will be a super worthwhile time for all.

Glenys Ferguson

PE / Sport

Term 1 is always a busy time for our Level 4 students. In PE we will be concentrating on athletics in preparation for the Annual House Sports to be held at Waverley Athletics Track on Friday 14th March. During week 5, we will be heading off on our 5 day Canberra Tour, a great opportunity to see first- hand how our National Capital has developed into the vibrant City it is today. Our first District Sporting event is the Summer Sport Round Robin held at Jells Park on Thursday 6th March, then it's the District Athletics Carnival at Bill Sewart on Friday 28th March. Joggers Club, Ride2School and After School Sport are popular programs that are available again this year. There will also be opportunities to nominate for cricket, swimming and tennis trials, so keep an eye out for my weekly sport's column, in the school's newsletter.

Keep on being active!

Charlie Kenez

Important Dates

24-28 Feb – Year 5/6 Canberra Camp

6 Mar – SDSSA Summer Sport Round Robin

13 Mar – Badge Ceremony

14 Mar – House Sports

19 Mar – National Ride2School Day

28 Mar – SDSSA Athletics Carnival

2 Apr – School photos taken

Visual Art Program for Term 1 2014.

Australian Art and Artists will be the focus for study in Term 1 2014. Students will learn more about the development of Art in Australia from first settlement until present day. As part of this study students will visit the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra where they can see some famous Australian paintings and sculptures. After returning from Canberra students will undertake an art homework project where they can select an Australian artist to study and present to their class. This project will be included as part of their assessment for semester one. Students will be painting and using dyes in art lessons this term so please ensure that your child has some protective clothing to wear in art lessons. A long sleeved art smock that is waterproof is the most ideal however an adult shirt with the sleeves shortened will also help to protect the school uniform as some of the paints and dyes can be difficult to wash out.

Merrilyn Mann