Stage 2
Term 3 2014

Term 3 is here and the holidays probably feel like they were long ago. Stage 2 students have already been very busy at work and we have lots of exciting things happening this term.

Wiley Park Excursion
On Tuesday 22nd July Stage 2 students and teachers will be walking down to Wiley Park after recess. We will be walking around the park to observe its natural and built environments. Students will then sketch a map of the park when they return to school. A collaborative sketch of a Wiley Park map will be developed and used for this term’s project based learning.

Education Week
To celebrate Education Week Stage 2 teachers are inviting parents into their child’s classroom on Thursday 7th August. At 9.15am a stage meeting led by Mrs Jeffriess will be held in the Computer Lab to discuss creativity and the authentic learning that is occurring in the classrooms. Followed from the meeting parents are invited to visit their child’s classroom from 9.30am – 10.30am to observe your child learning. We look forward to seeing you on this day.

LEARNING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM
This term students will be engaged in the unit A Changing Society. Moving from the heritage of their local area, students will explore the identity, historical features and diversity of their community in both a local and a broader context.

History Content - Community and Remembrance
- The importance of Country and Place to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples who belong to a local area
- ONE important example of change and ONE important example of continuity over time in the local community, region or state/territory
- The role that people of diverse backgrounds have played in the development and character of the local community (ACHHK062)
- Days and weeks celebrated or commemorated in Australia (including Australia Day, ANZAC Day, Harmony Week, National Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week, National Sorry Day, St Patrick’s Day) and the importance of symbols and emblems

Science Content
- People interact in varying ways within built environments
- A range of factors needs to be considered when designing and constructing built environments.
- There are processes and considerations involved in designing and producing information solutions.
- People interact with information sources and technologies in a variety of ways.
- A range of factors needs to be considered when using information sources and technologies.
**English**
The text ‘My Place’ by Nadia Wheatley and Donna Rawlins along with the television series produced by Penny Chapman will be the main literature focus this term.

- **In Reading and Viewing** students will be developing skills to apply the comprehension strategies of predicting, summarising, questioning and monitoring to build literal and inferred meaning. They will draw on experiences, knowledge and context to work out the meaning of unknown words.

- **In Writing and Representing** students will be summarising parts of the ‘My Place’ text and developing skills to write informative, persuasive and imaginative letters.

- **In Speaking and Listening** students will be interacting effectively in groups or pairs, use interaction skills including active listening and engage with ideas and respond to others.

- **In Spelling** students will be using a range of strategies to spell high frequency words, familiar and unfamiliar words

- **In Grammar, Punctuation and Vocab** students will understand the simple, compound and complex sentence and how they can be enriched by noun groups. They will understand how to elaborate on ideas using prepositional phrases, adjectival phrases, as well as main, subordinate, adjectival, adverbial and embedded clauses.

**Authentic Learning Experience**
In Term 3 students will work collaboratively in groups of 2-4 to answer the following question. Wiley Park is not meeting the needs of the local community. How can we change Wiley Park to meet community needs? Students will collaboratively design and present a redevelopment proposal for Wiley Park. A learning intention and success criteria will be provided to each group and they will work on their collaborative project both in the classroom and at home. Each group will then present their project at the end of the term to their class. Students will be engaging in learning across the curriculum content in Science, Maths, Creative Arts and History including also the cross curriculum priorities, general capabilities and other areas identified as important learning for all students.

**Maths**
In Mathematics this term your child will be consolidating Maths concepts in all areas before developing deeper understanding of these concepts through the year. Mapping, positional language and timelines will be a focus this term and part of the collaborative term project.

**A Changing Society Excursion**
Later in the term Stage 2 students will be invited to attend an excursion in the local area. Students will be looking at how the area has changed over time and the natural and built environments. They will be able to make connections to the ‘My Place’ text and television series. More details about the excursion will be revealed soon.

**Take Home Reading**
All students are expected to read at home for at least 15 minutes every night. While there are some books in the Take Home Reading (THR) boxes in the classrooms students can read books they borrow from the school library, Lakemba library or books they have at home. Students can also read digital stories and blog’s and are encouraged to post their learning on the stage blog. Reading is about understanding and by talking to your child about what they are reading or asking them to retell the story, you are helping them develop their comprehension skills.
**Library**

Students will continue to receive a one hour Library lesson each week where they are able to borrow books from the library. In Term 3 Library days are as follows:

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**Music**

All students in Stage 2 are scheduled to undertake a one hour lesson in Music each week. Throughout the year they will undertake music lessons with Mr Hooper and will work on lessons using the voice and musical instruments.

**PDHPE**

In PDHPE students will be learning about Child Protection with their class teacher one hour per week. Stage 2 students will also be undertaking fitness sessions during the week. They will be involved in skipping, running, relays and obstacle activities.

**Clothing**

Please be aware that during the winter months we do ask that students stay warm by wearing long sleeves, pants or leggings and a school jumper or jacket. Students are also required to wear a hat when they are on the playground during the winter months. Please ensure your child’s name is on all their belongings.

**Friday Sport**

Due to unforeseen issues with the bus companies we have been unable to book a bus that can take all Winter PSSA teams to their games on a Friday. Unfortunately the remainder of Winter PSSA for boys’ soccer and girls’ netball has been cancelled. We were able to organise a mini bus for the girls’ soccer teams to continue playing the next few games. Students who have paid for games they did not attend will have the money forwarded to either their Summer PSSA team or the next Stage excursion. We apologize for any inconvenience. Friday swimming will recommence soon when Ms Kergis and Mrs Smith return from long service leave and students who remain at school will be organised into groups that develop skills to undertake games. These skills include catching, throwing, kicking and batting.

Thank you for your continued support of the school. We value your opinions and please do not hesitate to speak to your child’s teacher or Mrs Jeffriess if you have any concerns about your child.

Regards

Stage 2 teachers

Michelle Jeffriess
Assistant Principal