

the GRADE 5 Classroom

TERM TWO NEWSLETTER WEEK 8

Literacy

Throughout this term students have been examining texts that have been written from various view points. There has been rich discussion around the types of information an author may choose to disclose and how this can persuade a reader to think or feel a certain way. Students have been applying these techniques to their written texts and have also explored persuasive techniques through role play, with some extremely effective and entertaining results. Students are now learning about the formal structure of an information report and how subject-specific vocabulary is used to give precise descriptions and information. The use of precise vocabulary is also an area of focus in our oral language development.



Reading

Grade 5 students have been concentrating on the skills required to improve their reading experience. Focusing on 'Making Connections', students are making personal connections with characters and events texts observing how these connections alter their perception of the characters to improve their reading experience and comprehension of a text.



The Writing Process

Grade 5 students have continued to build on their writing skills. They have been improving their ability to recognise and use the three sentence types; simple, compound and complex. As students are becoming more confident in recognising and creating these sentences they are moving onto complex sentences. Students have observed that their favourite authors will often use a combination of the three types of sentences in their writing and have noticed the impact that this can have on their own writing.

Australian History

Grade 5 students are studying the impact of Australia's Gold Rush on various groups of people. They have been researching chosen topics related to this and will be teaching each other about these topics through oral and keynote presentations.

RE

Grade 5 students are recognising Jesus in their everyday lives. Students discuss the different ways in which Jesus reaches out to them through the kind acts of others and also through personally displaying random acts of kindness to others.

Maths Investigations

This term Grade 5 students have been consolidating their learning by applying their Maths skills and knowledge to complete investigations. Earlier this term Grade 5 students were required to systematically create a crossword puzzle made of multiplication and division equations for a partner to solve. This investigation was largely focused on multiplication, division, and understanding the relationship between the two. During this investigation students enjoyed unpacking the 'Lattice Multiplication Method' and completing the challenges.

Grade 5 are currently beginning an investigation that requires them to submit a recommendation for an appropriate date to hold the Wynyard Show. Over the coming weeks students will be researching monthly mean temperatures and rainfall, measuring the daily average temperature and using this information to guide their chosen date. They will be creating bar graphs, column graphs and dot plots to show the data they have collected and justify their responses.

Exploring Light

Students have been working in collaborative teams to explore how light from a source can be absorbed, reflected and refracted. In the initial lessons student shared their pre-existing knowledge and developed a set of questions to investigate including: How do we see light? How far can light travel? Can light turn corners? and What causes a shadow? Students have enjoyed answering these questions and taking part in hands on activities to test their ideas. Science journals have been a great way to record new information and with the use of ray diagrams students are able to share their knowledge.



Dance Fever and Hockey

This term Grade 5 students have taken part in a skipping program. Students have learnt a number of techniques that have been enjoyable and challenging. This has provided a great combination of fitness, co-ordination and technical ability, while also being a lot of fun.



Thank you for your co-operation in supporting our routines and learning environment. It is always an adjustment for students when they have a change in teacher and the support that students have offered one another during this transition has been outstanding.

Well done to all Grade 5 students in preparing for and taking part in our school Cross Country. I was overwhelmed to see the sportsmanship Grade 5 students displayed when congratulating every class member - irrespective of when they crossed the finish line.

Thank you to the parents that have joined our class group on See-Saw. This is a great interactive platform for your children to showcase their learning. If you would like assistance with See-Saw please contact me. For those that I have not yet met, I look forward to meeting you at our approaching parent/teacher interviews.

Laura Willcox