

# Latham Primary School Term Letter

## Year 5/6 – Term 2 2017

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
5/6 EvS - The Scooby Gang	Emma van Smethills
5/6LR - The Sherlocks	Laura Ryan
5/6EW - The Inspector Gadgets	Erin Weston
Year 5/6 Executive Teacher	Melissa Mongan

Welcome back to term 2! We are looking forward to camp in week two, as well as high school transitions and another exciting term of learning.

### **Inquiry**

Inquiry based learning has an overall goal for students to make meaning of their world. They are encouraged to become thinkers and questioners, therefore engaging them in the process of learning. Inquiry begins by posing questions or scenarios, rather than just giving students the facts. They drive the learning as researchers and collaborators, researching open ended questions which promote critical and creative thinking skills. Through inquiry the subjects of the Australian Curriculum are seen as being linked and are taught as a transdisciplinary approach.

Our second unit of Inquiry will be focusing on the concept of Causation and Change. This unit will have a science and geographies focus, incorporating other subjects and areas of the curriculum including English, technologies, business and economics. Students will be given the opportunity to drive their own learning through questions relating to this concept as well as our universal statements:

- Change is ongoing
- Nature affects where we live

### **English**

During English sessions this term, students will participate in a variety of learning activities focusing on speaking and listening, reading and viewing, writing and spelling. English will also be heavily incorporated into our units of inquiry which will be guiding the particular text types taught during writing lessons. For example, our second unit of inquiry about natural disasters will incorporate explanations and procedural texts. There will also be a focus on presentations with Rostrum occurring this term.

### **Maths**

We will be continuing to use the Middle Years Mental Computation program in 5/6 to focus on mental computation strategies. These will continue to be our daily warm ups and the students are encouraged to keep using their number cards to practise at home. Our other focus areas for the term will be number - decimals and percentages and will return later in the term to order of operations. We will also be focusing on measurement, specifically length and area, volume and capacity.

### **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)**

This term is the continuation of the Friendly Schools Plus (FS+) program, as this is a whole school focus. The program aligns with the Australian Curriculum and encourages students to identify and regulate their social and emotional behaviours by teaching them practical skills and strategies. This term we will be focusing on self-awareness - exploring the idea of self and being a positive member of a group; and self-management - exploring our emotions and how to regulate this in order to foster positive relationships.

### **Library:**

Regular library times each week: EW - Thursday 12.05-12.50pm, EvS & LR - Tuesday 12:30

### **Specialist Programs**

Class	Japanese - Daniel	PE - Sally	Performing Arts - Amanda
EW - Inspector Gadgets	Tuesday 1.30 - 2.30	Friday 9:15-10:00	Friday 10:00-10:45
LR - Sherlocks	Thursday 11:20-12:20	Friday 10:00-10:45	Friday 9:15-10:00
EvS - Scooby Gang	Friday 9:45-10:45	Thursday 11:20-12:20	Thursday 12:05-12:30

#### **A message from Daniel.....**

This term the students will be learning about shopping and restaurants in Japan and the cultural dos and don'ts of shopping and eating. They will be learning how to ask "What do you want to buy?" as well as asking about prices and commenting if something is cheap / expensive. They will also be learning how to order things from a menu.

#### **A message from Sally.....**

This term in physical education, we will begin preparing for the athletics carnival events. This will include sprints and track starts, hurdles, shot put with bean bags, discus throw with a soft plastic discus and jumping activities. We will also do the 'beep' test, a universally recognised cardiovascular fitness activity. Each student's result will be recorded and kept for future results at Latham Primary. We will then be working in small groups to research cultural sports and games from around the world that we can play or adapt in class. We will finish the term with some 'challenge' activities involving teamwork and collaboration.

#### **A message from Amanda.....**

During arts lessons this term the students are learning about music. The lessons will be aimed at further developing their understandings and aural skills in the key elements (e.g. beat /rhythm; pitch and melody; dynamics; tempo; tone colour and style) of the music they listen to, compose and perform. They will also investigate and compare how music communicates meaning in a variety of contexts - including cultural.

### **Thing to Remember:**

- Week 2 - 5/6 Camp Monday 1st April to Wednesday 3rd April
- Week 2 - Friday: Transition visit to Kingsford Smith High School
- Week 3 - NAPLAN Year 5
- Week 3 - Rostrum is due
- Week 5 - Parent session by Sexual Health and Family Planning regarding puberty transitions (more information to some home soon)
- Whole 5/6 Assembly - Wednesday week 10, 1:45pm

We look forward to a successful second term!

Emma van Smethills, Laura Ryan, Erin Weston and executive teacher Melissa Mongan