

# 2017 - Year 5/6

## **Class**

5/6 EvS - The Scooby Gang

5/6LR - The Sherlocks

5/6EW - The Inspector Gadgets

Year 5/6 Executive Teacher

## **Teacher**

Emma van Smethills

Laura Ryan

Erin Weston

Melissa Mongan

Welcome back to a new school year! We have begun with enthusiasm and we are looking forward to a fantastic year of learning. This year the 5/6 cohort are themed as Investigators to go with our Inquiry based 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 first unit of Inquiry will be tackling the big question 'How is communication the foundation of society?'. This unit will have a history and technologies focus, incorporating other subjects and areas of the curriculum including geography, civics and citizenship, health and English. Students will be given the opportunity to drive their own learning through questions relating to this concept as well as our universal statements:

- Communication continually changes.
- We can use communication systems to fight inequalities.
- We use communication systems to share our voice.
- Communication affects relationships.

## **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 first unit of inquiry focuses on the concept of **Communication** and will link in with writing to persuade.

## **Maths**

We will be using the Middle Years Mental Computation program in 5/6 to focus on mental computation strategies. These will become our daily warm ups and the students will be bringing home number cards to use for daily practise at home. Our other focus areas for the term will be number - place Value, addition and subtraction strategies, multiplication and division strategies; geometry - including mapping and grid references. Each of these strands includes problem solving activities designed to develop students' ability to work mathematically.

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

This year we will be implementing the Friendly Schools Plus (FS+) program, 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 - Inspector Gadgets- Tuesday 9.15-10am, EvS & LR - Monday 9.15-10am.

## Specialist Programs

Class	Japanese - Daniel	PE - Sally	Performing Arts - Amanda
EW - Inspector Gadgets	Tuesday 1.30 - 2.30	Thursday 11:20 -12:05	Thursday 12:05 - 12:50
LR - Sherlocks	Tuesday 9:45 - 10:45	Thursday 2:15 - 3:00	Thursday 1:30 - 2:15
EvS - Scooby Gang	Friday 11:20 - 12:20	Thursday 1:30 - 2:15	Thursday 2:15 - 3:00

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

ようこそ! Welcome to Japanese for 2017. I am excited to be teaching Japanese to all the classes across the school. This term in 5/6 the students will be revising greetings and how to introduce themselves. We will be learning about giving directions, going shopping and the questions to ask such as where, when and how to get from one place to another. We also will be exploring a variety of cultural traditions such as festivals and daily life of students in Japan. We will be continuing to learn how to write hiragana (the Japanese alphabet). I will be teaching using authentic sources and materials to help to engage the students. Daniel

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

I have now met all of my classes at Latham and am looking forward to working with everyone this year. This term, year 5 and 6 students will participate in a number of activities designed to develop their fundamental motor skills, including throwing, catching, kicking, running and dodging. This will be done through guided play, specific skill development activities and cooperative games. There will be a focus on cricket in the first part of the term and basketball towards the end of term. Students will be accessing the oval, outdoor basketball courts and indoor hall for their lessons. Please ensure your child is wearing suitable footwear for their PE sessions.

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

For the Arts this term the students are learning about drama. The lessons will focus on working collaboratively as they use the elements of drama to shape character and mood in improvisations, play-building and performances of devised and scripted drama for audiences. They will also explore how the elements of drama and production elements communicate meaning through reviewing their own drama as well as through making comparisons between dramas from different cultures.

### **Behaviour systems**

In 5/6 LR and EvS we are focussing on positive reinforcement to encourage students to follow our school values and class beliefs. As a whole class we earn marbles to fill a jar which will result in an exciting whole class activity that students vote on. Students also have an individual system to earn points and rewards which is our Class Dojo. Points are based off displaying the school values and actively participating in class. In 5/6EW we wrote our class Essential Agreement, with the 6 big ideas we believed would create a positive classroom. We are using table points to encourage students to follow our Essential Agreement. All classes follow a hierarchy of consequences when students show noncompliant or inappropriate behaviour. Students have 2 verbal and visual warnings before time out, then taking their work to a buddy class, and involvement with executive staff if behaviour continues or escalates.

### **Thing to Remember:**

- Whole 5/6 Assembly - Wednesday week 10, 1:45pm
- 5/6 Camp - Term 2 Week 2 - Monday 1st April to Wednesday 3rd April - Notes coming home soon!
- Year 6 shirts will be available for purchase before photo day - Notes coming home soon!

We look forward to a successful first term!

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