

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, February 23	Summer Interschool Sport commences (Iramoo V Thomas Chirnside)
Wednesday, February 28	SSVWD Swimming Carnival
Thursday, March 8	School Photos
Friday, March 9	Grades 3 - 6 School Cross Country @ Wyndham Vale Reserve (a.m.)
Monday, March 12	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday, March 20	Cybersafety Presentation
Tuesday, March 6	First Aid in Schools Program
Thursday, March 29	Last day of Term 1 (2.30 p.m. finish)
Monday, April 16	First day Term 2 (8:50am start)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to all of the families of our Grade 5 students for 2018. We hope that you have enjoyed your holiday break. The Grade 5 teachers are **Mrs Caitlin Clancy (5CC)**, **Miss Jodie Cartwright (5CJ – Grade Leader)**, **Mr Mark Downie (5DM)** and **Ms Liesel McGregor (5LM)**. In addition to classroom teachers, **Mr Graham Byworth** is the Grade 5 & 6 Learning Improvement Co-ordinator and will also be supporting the learning of students in each of the Grade 5 classes.

Throughout this year the Grade 5 children will be involved in many interesting, exciting and educational learning experiences. We would like to congratulate all of our students on an enthusiastic and positive start to the school year.

Each term a Grade 5 newsletter will be sent home to keep you informed about special events and activities within the Grade 5 area and how you can help your child at home. The whole school newsletter will be sent home with the eldest child in the family fortnightly on **Wednesdays**. Please read these newsletters carefully as they contain valuable information.

LITERACY

This term students will focus on building both their reading and writing 'stamina'. During the daily **Reading** lessons, students will revise strategies necessary for selecting 'just right' books. Students will be encouraged to use a variety of reading strategies, such as making predictions, questioning and clarifying the meaning of unfamiliar words. Students will also be required to complete reading responses related to their books, encouraging a deeper level of comprehension and thinking about their reading.

In **Writing** lessons, students will learn more about the structures and features of persuasive and narrative writing and publish several pieces. Students will also have the opportunity to generate writing of their own choice during Independent Writing sessions. Students will be encouraged and expected to record ideas in their Writer's Notebooks and further develop their editing skills. In addition, students will participate in weekly spelling investigations where they will learn about a particular spelling pattern or rule.

NUMERACY

In Term 1 students will be exposed to many different mathematical concepts. As students progress through the year they will build upon their knowledge of many key areas that have been introduced in the Early and Junior Years (Prep – Grade 4). Below are some of the topics that students will be learning about:

- Place Value
- Data Representation & Interpretation
- Shape (2D and 3D)
- Addition & Subtraction
- Volume & Capacity
- Multiplication
- Perimeter & Area
- Fractions & Decimals.

Part of our Middle Years Numeracy Strategy is to expose students to the importance of recording their working out and to check their calculations using various strategies. This aims to develop a greater degree of independence in work habits and to challenge each individual student, *irrespective of what level they are currently working at.*

MATHLETICS & ABC READING EGGS

At Iramoo we use two interactive e-learning resources called **Mathletics** and **ABC Reading Eggs** to compliment our teaching of Mathematics and English. Both programs originated in Australia.

Mathletics and **Reading Eggs** provide opportunities for your child to improve his/her mathematics and reading skills in an engaging and fun way. The primary goal is to improve mathematics results and essential reading skills.

These programs can be used online from home. Each child can use their Mathletics username and password to access both of the programs.

Mathletics can be found at www.mathletics.com.au

ABC Reading Eggs can be found at www.readingeggs.com.au

If you require further information about Mathletics and Reading Eggs please contact your child's teacher.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

This term students will participate in a unit of work about **Civics and Citizenship**. This unit will enable students to learn about Federation, the three levels of government in Australia, understand what democracy means and recognise the qualities of a proactive citizen.

STUDENT DIARIES & NIGHTLY READING

Each Grade 5 student has received an Iramoo Primary School student diary. Students are to use their diaries as a reading record, a reminder for notes/items that they need to bring to school and as a means of becoming more organised and independent. Parents are also encouraged to use the diary as a means of communicating between school and home. We ask that parents check the student diary on a nightly basis and that it is signed each evening. Please ensure that you promote the expectation that diaries are not to be graffitied in any form.

A reminder to parents that nightly reading is an important part of our Literacy program. Students in Grade 5 are expected to read for a *minimum* of 25 minutes per night and write a short response about what they read as well as the number of pages they read. Another option for nightly reading could be to utilise the Reading Eggspress website (<http://readingeggspress.com.au>). Students have a personalised log in and password to access the site, where they can complete a Reading Comprehension lesson. Each lesson should take approximately 20 minutes.

HOMEWORK

Students will receive homework each Monday and it is to be completed and returned to school by Thursday of the same week. We will have discussed the homework content in class with the children at school before it is sent home. Tasks will consist of a literacy and a numeracy-based activity. These activities will be designed to reinforce the concepts that have been taught at school in the previous week.

IPADS

The Grade 5 students will be using their iPads regularly as an engaging learning tool for a wide range of learning activities. Expectations of how to use the iPads appropriately and cyber safety will be a continual focus throughout the year. We encourage you to continue this discussion at home and monitor your child's Internet use very carefully, particularly in the area of social media. Students will be using Google Apps to explore, create and upload documents online as a part of an interactive 'classroom'. When your child takes his/her iPad home, please ensure that they have it fully charged ready to use and return it to school the following day.

LIBRARY

Students visit the library once each fortnight, on a Thursday, and are expected to borrow up to three books in Grade 5. **Please ensure that the children return their library books by Monday of their library-borrowing week.** This timely return of books assists library staff to complete book returns, therefore providing a wider range of book selection for the students. It is an expectation that **every child** borrows from the library and classroom teachers will monitor this closely. Please ensure that your child has a library bag for their fortnightly borrowing.

FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Our students in Grades 5 & 6 are fortunate to have St John Ambulance visit and deliver their First Aid in Schools Program. The program will be conducted on **Tuesday, March 6**, with sessions lasting for around 50 minutes. There is no charge to parents.

The sessions aim to expose students to some basic first aid training, with an emphasis on how to recognise and respond to someone who is unconscious and not breathing. Please spend some time speaking to your child about the importance of memorising their address, suburb they live in and some main roads in case they ever need to call an ambulance. Some of the basics covered in First Aid In Schools include:

- DRSABC of the DRSABCD Action Plan
- Recovery position
- Cardio Pulmonary Rescue (CPR)
- Basic management of bleeding
- Bandage a bleeding hand
- Management of a nose bleed.

SCHOOL AND CLASSROOM RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

School and classroom rights and responsibilities have been discussed and students understand the appropriate behaviour that they need to demonstrate at school. We encourage all students to be co-operative and caring members of our school community both in the classroom and in the playground.

Throughout the year there will be an ongoing emphasis on values education, particularly in relation to the following:

- The school values of *Respect, Responsibility and Relationships*
- The Iramoo 'Top 10 Not Negotiable Social Skills'
- Student Learning Behaviours.

CLASS SUPPLIES

Thank you to all of the children who have returned to school with all of their classroom supplies. If you have not already done so, please send along a box of tissues, a sponge, soap, art smock and a library bag.

PUNCTUALITY

School commences at 8.50 a.m. It is very important for children to be punctual each morning. They need to be at school before 8.45 a.m. to ensure that learning programs run smoothly and so that children do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities. Children who are late to school are required to obtain a late pass from the office. If your child is absent from school, a signed note is required when he/she returns to school to explain their absence. Your vigilance in ensuring that your child attends school every day is greatly appreciated.

If your child must be absent from school, a note detailing the reason for his/her absence is required when returning to school. If your child is absent our school attendance officer, Mr Shane Hamilton, will contact you via telephone.

If your child has a history of poor attendance, a member of our leadership team will endeavour to make contact when notified that your child is absent from school. Please remember that we aim for fewer than 10 days absence per child, per year, which equates to roughly two days per term.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

Grade 5/6 Summer Interschool Sport will commence on **Friday, February 23**. There will be 3 rounds of summer sport this term, with the remaining 5 rounds to take place in Term 3. Sport will be held in the mornings in keeping with our school SunSmart School policy.

This year all Grade 5 & 6 children will be participating in sporting activities to promote active and healthy living for at least an hour each Friday. Children not selected in an interschool sporting team will participate in an alternative sports program that may include activities such as cricket, netball, yoga, golf, walking, orienteering and badminton.

Permission notes will be sent home this week. The cost for students selected in an interschool sporting team will be **\$18**. This will cover the costs of transportation, venue and equipment hire for eight rounds of summer sport.

The cost for students participating in the alternative sports program will be **\$5**. This will cover lessons and tuition from outside instructors.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

As our senior students are role models for the younger children, it is imperative that they are in correct school uniform at all times and we ask for your support with enforcing this at home. We will be monitoring uniform closely at school. Please be aware that nail polish, jewellery and sweatbands are not to be worn as fashion accessories. Please also be aware also that students are **not to bring** electronic devices such as mobile phones and iPods as these devices are not permitted at school.

FRUIT AND WATER

Water and fruit are a great way to get the brain working! The Kids & Fruit program has been a very successful program at Iramoo for many years. Through this program the children will become familiar with different types of fruit as well as the different varieties. The eating of fruit becomes an important and eagerly awaited part of the morning. If there is some reason why your child does not participate in the Kids & Fruit program please provide a note for your child's teacher. It is essential that he/she have a piece of fruit (or healthy snack such as sultanas, carrots, etc.) from home so that it can be eaten at the same time the other children have their fruit.



Eating a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables is a very important part of establishing healthy eating patterns throughout life.

We encourage all students to have a plastic or metal bottle of **plain** water at their table that they can drink throughout the day. **No cordial or juice please.** *Healthy* lunches and snacks are also strongly encouraged.



SUNSMART

During Term 1 and Term 4 every child is required to wear a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat when outside. Children will require a hat every day during this term for all play times and Physical Education sessions. Please also ensure that your child's name is written clearly inside his/her hat. New hats can be purchased at our uniform shop.



**JODIE CARTWRIGHT (GRADE LEADER), CAITLIN CLANCY,
MARK DOWNIE & LIESEL McGREGOR
GRADE 5 TEACHERS**

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Grade 5 students will be learning this term in our specialist areas:

Visual Arts

This term, students will explore how and why artists, craftspeople and designers realise their ideas through different visual forms, practices and processes. They develop conceptual and expressive skills. To address these elements of the Victorian Curriculum, Grade 5 students will be exploring the quirky elements of Surrealism. Students will begin with a dream-like drawing that must include a randomly selected setting, a creature and chance objects. They will then move onto a surreal themed portrait that will demonstrate students' expressive skills and imagination.

Performing Arts

Students at this level are encouraged to join our morning assembly band. After a brief introductory lesson on the various instruments available to play, children are given the opportunity to select a piece, borrow an instrument and practise at home. If you would like your child to play at morning assembly and would support home practise, please let Mr. Packham know and he will ensure that he/she is given the opportunity. As well as the assembly band, students will have an opportunity to participate in our school rock group. If you believe that your child shows talent and commitment in the field of singing or playing musical instruments, please encourage and support them to audition. Auditions will be held in the next few weeks. This term the students begin work on producing a TV commercial. This task will involve students analysing what makes a good commercial, developing original ideas and converting their ideas into a storyboard format. They will also be providing costumes and props where needed, and learn how to operate a camera and develop terminology and techniques related to the project. Finally, students will rehearse, film/perform and edit their recorded footage. This complies with the *Victorian Curriculum* for Media and Drama that recommends students explore and use media technologies

Physical Education (P.E.)

To begin Term 1, Grade 5 students will participate in a range of co-operative games, which will encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. The Victorian Curriculum states that *students will demonstrate an understanding of how to adjust the force and speed of an object to improve accuracy and control.* To achieve this, students will be developing their striking, with the focus on hand eye co-ordination and refining bat control. They will be learning the skills and rules of bat tennis and will be introduced to the modified tennis game called 'red ball.' Throughout the term, students will be training for our Iramoo Senior Cross Country, by developing their running endurance and setting personal goals for long distance running. Our Cross Country will be held on **Friday, March 9** and parents are encouraged to help prepare students by supporting some running training at home. At the end of Term 1, students will be practising their golf skills in particular striking a stationary ball and using a range of different golf clubs including the driver, iron and the putter. The students will be focusing on improving their accuracy and distance.

****Spectators are welcome to take photographs at our school events but must of course be respectful of their use on social or other media, not posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent.**

Digital Technologies

Grade 5 students will begin the year using the computer lab to do some very important testing for Mathematics and English. The results from these activities will be very helpful to the classroom teachers in their planning. We will then revise the basic features and introduce some more advanced functions of iCal, an electronic calendar program the students are familiar with. The students will then review the Student Acceptable Use of Digital Technologies Agreement and follow up working through more modules of the Budd:e Cybersmart internet program. In accordance with problem solving and data presentation aspects of the Victorian Curriculum, the students will prepare a budget for child's birthday party using the basic settings and the addition and multiplication functions of a spreadsheet program.



Spanish

¡Hola y Bienvenidos! In Term 1, Grade 5 students will focus on applying their knowledge of sound-letter associations to spell new words. Students will recognise the elements of grammar such as gender and singular/plural forms, simple verb forms, adjectives, and pronouns to understand simple spoken and written texts. The Victorian Curriculum states that learning Spanish contributes to students' general literacy development. As they encounter the varieties of Spanish language and cultures represented in the Spanish-speaking world, they can make comparisons with their own language(s) and culture(s) and consider their own ways of communicating. Students will apply this skill by creating short sentences about themselves using elements of grammar in Spanish and sharing them with their peers. **¡Hasta luego!**

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**HOW TO HAVE FUN AND STAY SAFE ONLINE
GRADE 4, 5 & 6 STUDENT WORKSHOPS
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018**

Grade 4, 5 & 6 students are very fortunate to have Susan Mclean, an expert in the area of cybersafety coming to our school to discuss how to be respectful and responsible digital citizens and how to stay safe online. Students will participate in a 90 minute, age appropriate workshop and complete a comprehensive workbook with key learnings to bring home to share with parent/guardians.

Susan will explore and discuss the following topics during the student workshop:

- Online rules and laws: where to find them, why they are important and what happens if they are broken. Students will be challenged to think clearly about their online activity and decisions.
- Cyberbullying: what it is and what to do if we see it happening, or if it is happening to us.
- Online friends who are not really friends: how strangers find us online and what they might ask us to do.
- Sites and apps that students are using: the age requirements for each site and why it is important that rules are NOT broken or disobeyed.
- Staying safe online.
- What being respectful and responsible digital citizens really means.
- Time for discussion and student questions.

GROWING UP ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION

***FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS & CARERS OF IRAMOO STUDENTS*
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018 – EVENING SESSION AT IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL
6.30 P.M.**

Susan will also be presenting a very important and informative session for parents/guardians that will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as things we need to be aware of regarding children and their use of technology including:

- What children are doing online: popular social networking sites and apps such as KiK, Musical.ly, Instagram and Yellow. What they are, what the legal ages to use them are and why the rules should be obeyed.
- The difference between an 'online friend' and a 'stranger'.
- Online grooming: what it is and when/how does it occur. What are the warning signs and what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child.
- Cyberbullying: what it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent it and what to do if it occurs. Also the legal consequences and the possible criminal charges.
- The real consequences of taking and sending of explicit images.
- Potential dangers and safety tips: how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online via parental controls and restriction passcodes.
- Problematic Internet use and gaming issues.
- The Office of the e-Safety Commissioner: the roles, resources and how to make a report.
- How to set rules and boundaries around Internet use in the home.
- The session will conclude with time for questions.

Parents/guardians will receive further details about this session later in the term. The significant cost of the workshops and the parent information session will be covered by the school and provided at **no cost** to parent/guardians.

***NOTE** – this session is for Iramoo parent/guardians only. No child will be permitted to attend, as some of the information covered is explicit.

**KARYN HENWOOD
STUDENT WELLBEING CO-ORDINATOR**