



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 5152

YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER TERM 1

February, 2020

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, February 17	St Johns Ambulance First Aid in Schools Program
Tuesday, February 25	SSVWD Swimming Carnival
Friday, February 28	Summer Interschool Sport commences
Thursday, March 5	School Photos
Monday, March 9	Labour Day (Public Holiday)
Friday, March 13	Year 3 - 6 School Cross Country @ Wyndham Vale Reserve
Friday, March 27	Last day of Term 1 (2.30 p.m. finish)
Tuesday, April 14	First day Term 2 (8:50am start)

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to all families of Year 6 students for 2020. We hope you had an enjoyable and restful holiday break. Your child's last year of primary school education will be an extremely busy, exciting and challenging one. Our aim this year will be to prepare the Year 6 students for their secondary school education in 2021.

The Year 6 teachers for 2020 are:

- Ms Katelyn Ardley (6KA)
- Ms Kirby Bebed (6BE)
- Ms Jasmine Blas (6BL)
- Mr Mark Downie (6MD)
- Ms Ashley Patterson (6AP) - Team Leader

In addition to the classroom teachers, Mr Graham Byworth, our Year 5 & 6 Learning Specialist and Mrs Deborah Batty (Education Support Staff) will also be working in the Year 6 area.

Throughout this year, our Year 6 children will be involved in many interesting and exciting experiences. We would like to congratulate all of our students on an enthusiastic and positive start to the school year. As the eldest students in the school, we are expecting that the Year 6 students continue to set positive and respectful examples for our younger students at all times.

Congratulations once again to the students named School Captains for 2020. We look forward to them displaying their leadership skills and taking on extra responsibilities throughout the year.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS	Ava Harris & Denis Cejvan
SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAINS	Tahlia Loades & Vaidehi Vachhani

We will be selecting captains for our four houses: Gaze (Yellow), Hughes (Red), Freeman (Blue) and Lewis (Green). We will also be selecting Art Captains and Digital Technology Captains this year. Last week, the students were given the opportunity to nominate themselves for these positions. The selection process will be completed over the coming fortnight.

CURRICULUM

LITERACY

In **Reading**, students will continue to practise various strategies to support their understanding of the material they read. They will respond to their reading using a variety of approaches including writing detailed summaries, creating character maps and making connections. Each Year 6 class will also begin a novel study this term. During the novel study, each student in the class will be required to participate through shared reading and analysis of the same book, much like secondary college English classes.

In **Writing**, we will be composing autobiographies and persuasive texts. We will also continue to focus on the use of Writers' Notebooks, the writing process (i.e. planning, composing, revising, editing and publishing) and handwriting. Students will be involved in daily writing sessions. We will focus on different grammar rules that are important for students to know when completing written work, as well as taking responsibility for proof reading their own work.

NUMERACY

In Numeracy, our learning goals will focus on extending fundamental number concepts. Over the coming weeks we will assess and closely monitor each student's ability to work with numbers. In Year 6 it is particularly important for students to be able to:

- read, write and say numbers to the millions
- use mental and written mathematics to calculate addition and subtraction of positive numbers
- use mental and written mathematics to multiply and divide large numbers by a single digit
- link fractions, decimals and percentages
- multiply different numbers up to 10×10

INTEGRATED STUDIES

'A Diverse and Connected World'

This term students will explore both the richness and diversity of Asian cultures as well as some of the difficulties and issues they face. They will investigate the features, arts, people and traditions of some Asian countries and compare them with Australia. Students will learn the ways in which these cultures as Australia's closest neighbours, have contributed to Australian society.

STUDENT DIARIES & NIGHTLY READING

Every Year 6 student has received an Iramoo Primary School student diary. Children are to use their diaries to record their nightly reading and write reminders 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 and sign their child's student diary each night.

A reminder to parents that nightly reading will once again be an important part of our Literacy program. Students have a question card that is pasted into the front of their diary and this is to be used to respond to the text they are reading. A one-sentence response is required each night and can be written in the diary. Students in Year 6 should be reading for at least 25 minutes per night. Your child is encouraged to read a wide variety of texts such as magazines, comics and digital texts. Another option for nightly reading is 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

Homework will commence on Monday, February 17. Students will receive homework each Monday and it is to be completed and returned to school every Thursday. The homework will be discussed in class with the children before it is sent home. During Term 1 the homework will consist of handwriting and multiplication activities. A Year 6 staff member is available each lunchtime to help students with their homework if they need extra assistance or guidance.

iPADS

Our Year 6 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 return it to school the following day fully charged and ready to use.

STUDENT DRESS CODE & YEAR 6 SHIRTS

As our senior students are role models to the younger children, it is essential they are in full and correct school uniform at all times. The children have started the year on a really positive note and we ask for your support with enforcing this at home. We will be monitoring uniform closely at school. All items of clothing should be clearly labelled. Please be aware that coloured nail polish, jewellery and sweatbands are not to be worn.

The order for Year 6 polo shirts, windcheaters and bomber jackets is currently being finalised. Please make sure that you have your payment and sizing organised. For further assistance please contact Mrs Sandra Cameron in our school office. Students should receive their special uniforms towards the end of Term 1.

LIBRARY

Our Year 6 students will visit our school Library on **Thursdays**, once a fortnight. Students will need to return their borrowed books to school the day before they are due to visit the library. Year 6 students are able to borrow up to four books each fortnight. There is an expectation that every child borrows from the library each fortnight. Classroom teachers will monitor this closely. Please ensure that your child has a library bag to protect the books that they borrow.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

Year 6 Summer Interschool Sport will commence on **Friday, February 28**. There will be four rounds of summer sport this term, with the remaining four 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 Year 6 children will be participating in sporting activities each Friday to promote active and healthy living. 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. More information will be sent home soon.

YEAR 6 SCHOOL CAMP

Our Year 6 camp this year will be at the Alexandra Adventure Resort, in Alexandra. It has been booked for the week of **Monday, May 18 – Friday, May 22**. Please begin factoring the cost, approximately \$350 into your family budget now. This is a wonderful week and no doubt the highlight of most students' primary school years. We highly recommend that every Year 6 child attends.

Please remember that at Iramoo only students who display appropriate behaviours are invited to school camp.

FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Our students are fortunate to have St Johns Ambulance visit and deliver their First Aid in Schools program again this year. The program will be held next week on **Monday, February 17**, 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. Some of the basics covered include:

- DRSABC of the DRSABCD Action Plan
- recovery position
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- basic management of bleeding
- bandaging a bleeding hand
- management of a nose bleed

SECONDARY COLLEGE VISITS

Over the coming months, representatives from some of our local secondary colleges will be coming to our school to speak to the children about what secondary college is like. In addition, students may have the opportunity to visit some of the colleges to participate in the '**A Day in the Life of a Secondary College Student**' program. Further information will be sent home about this as dates are confirmed.

**MS KATELYN ARDLEY, MS KIRBY BEBEND, MS JASMINE BLAS,
MR MARK DOWNIE & MS ASHLEY PATTERSON (TEAM LEADER)
YEAR 6 TEACHERS**

Parents and carers contribute to traffic problems around our school. Please help by obeying the parking restriction signs, keeping clear of the children's crossing and never double-parking outside the school.



SPECIALIST CLASSES

Below is a brief outline of what all Year 6 students will be learning this term in our specialist areas:

Visual Arts

In Year 6, Visual Arts students will begin to adopt a more mature approach to art making and thinking. The Victorian Curriculum states students explore how and why artists, craftspeople and designers realise their ideas through different visual forms, practices and processes. They will be given their own 'folio' that they will contribute to throughout the year and will complete reflections on their work as an introduction to art writing. Their first task will involve them being introduced to the **'Rules of Art' - the Elements and Principles**. They will decorate the face of their Art folio with elements such as line and texture before moving onto colour theory activities where they will create a colour wheel and learn the difference between tints and tones. The skill focus will be on drawing, and the students' grasp of the elements and principles of Art.

Performing Arts

Students in Year 6 are encouraged to join the 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 in the Assembly Band and would support home practice, please let Mrs Antoniou or Mr Packham know and they will ensure that they are given the opportunity. As well as the Assembly Band, students will have an opportunity to participate in a school Rock Band. 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.

Year 6 students use the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation, play-building and performances of devised and scripted drama for audiences. To address these elements of the Victorian Curriculum, our students will be doing activities in preparation for the production of a News/Current Affairs Program. This will include public speaking, formatting stories, writing storyboards, camera operation and performing for the camera.

Physical Education (P.E.)

To begin 2020, Year 6 students will participate in a range of cooperative games that will encourage teamwork and 'getting along' skills. In conjunction with the Victorian Curriculum that states that students will refine and further develop a wide range of fundamental movement skills in more complex movement *patterns*, students will be developing their ball striking. They will be playing bat tennis and badminton and be introduced to the modified tennis game called 'red ball', with the focus on using the correct body position for serving, forehand and backhand as well as covering the court for defense and offense. Throughout the term students will be training for our Iramoo Senior Cross Country, they will be developing their running endurance and setting personal goals for long distance running. Our Cross Country will be held on **Friday, March 13** and parents are encouraged to help prepare students by supporting training at home. At the end of Term 1, students will be improving their jump rope skills both individually and in groups.

****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 taking or posting a photo of any child without permission from the child's parent/guardian.**

Digital Technologies

Year 6 students will be introduced to the **eSafety website** for primary school students that focuses on how to be an 'eSafe Kid': Be Safe, Be Secure, Be Kind and Be Curious. They will create a detailed **Comic Life** poster containing manipulated images and written safety strategies from the eSafety website that apply to using technology (computers, iPads and the internet) at school. In accordance with problem solving and data presentation aspects of the Victorian Curriculum, the students will conclude the term using internet resources, the **Comic Life** program and the **Numbers** program to plan and promote an end of year class excursion. They will select items appropriate for a Year 6 class excursion, calculate the total cost and present the data in spreadsheet format. The students will use familiar tools to add colour and relevant images to their excursion spreadsheets.



Spanish Club

¡Hola y bienvenidos! In Term 1 the Year 6 students will continue to build on their knowledge of the Spanish language by revisiting topics such as **'Saludos'** (Greetings), **'Numeros'** (Numbers), and **'Los Colores'** (Colours). Students will be encouraged to use their knowledge of the language to answer common question such as *'How are you?', 'How old are you?' and 'What is your favourite colour?'* in **Español**. Year 6 students will also begin their first Spanish project entitled **'España'** where they will have the opportunity to research and learn about the different regions of Spain and its many beautiful landmarks. This project will help students *to gain an understanding of the diversity of the language and culture as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum.* **¡Hasta luego amigos! Señora Arenas ☺**