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Room 13, Year 6
Teacher: Mark O'Mara

Class times

Lessons commence	8.45am
Morning recess	10.45am – 11.05am
Lunch	1.05pm – 1.45pm
School finishes	3.00pm

Before school children can arrive at school from 8.15 am and must go to the undercover area. They will be released to class by the Admin at 8.35.

All children are required to be in class at 8.35am to become organised for the school day. Lessons start promptly at 8.45am.

Children who arrive after 8.45am must go to the front office first to receive a Late Pass which is then given to the classroom teacher.

Class Agreement

Children make class agreements so that they have ownership of them and take responsibility. Our focus is on Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and an understanding that students will speak up and ask questions in class. The aim is to create a friendly, safe working environment where children feel valued and rewarded for their efforts.

Homework Diary and Home Reading

Diaries are to be used daily by the children as they are a great tool to assist organisation. They can also be used as a communication between home and school. We will be checking the diaries weekly. There is a big emphasis on taking responsibility for their own learning in year 6, so all students are expected to use their diaries to stay organised throughout the year as they juggle their school and home responsibilities.

Students will be expected to complete daily home reading and record it in their diary. Students are free to choose their own reading books from the library as they should be at a stage of reading for enjoyment. A variety of genres, authors and fiction/nonfiction texts are encouraged throughout the year.

General Homework

There will be an emphasis on finishing off work rather than 'homework for homework's sake.' All homework is meaningful and part of the class programme.

Regular homework tasks include Home reading (20 minutes/day), New Wave Mental Maths books and Mathletics tasks online.

If a child is having specific difficulties with a concept they may be given homework to practise this skill/concept. They are encouraged to have a go and be responsible for asking for extra help from the teacher.

On a fortnightly basis there will more than likely be novel questions, HASS and science activities that will require homework time for finishing. Any daily maths activities not finished in class must be completed by the next day. This will include maths textbook work and differentiated worksheets. If a due date for an activity is changed it is generally because class interruptions have interfered with class time allowed for that activity.

Throughout the year there will be various projects that will require some time at home to complete such as the Business Fair in term 1.

All students are encouraged to enjoy a balance between school and recreational activities.

Independence

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning and become independent workers by

- Setting goals.
- Completing set tasks to the best of their ability.
- Completing work on time and keeping work up to date (time management).
- Seeking assistance when difficulties occur.
- Revising and proof reading their work.
- Reflecting on their achievements and identifying areas for improvement and areas of strength.

English

Our aim is to produce critical thinkers by teaching children about:

- Various text types
- Conventions
- Purpose and Audience
- Reflecting and acting on their understanding of the way language works.

In Term One we will be studying the novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar.

All writing forms will be revised and demonstrated with particular emphasis on essay writing.

In the English learning area, students will be covering spelling through the Words Their Way spelling program.

Mathematics

We are continuing the Pearson Envision Maths Programme as a tool in teaching the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics. This is one of many resources used by teachers for maths instruction. We teach skills in blocks so that there is a lot of opportunity for practise and consolidation.

The Mathletics computer programme is available online at school and parents have been asked to pay a small fee for the use of this programme at home and at school in 2018. The Mathletics programme is used to consolidate concepts taught at school.

HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences)

There are four components to this learning area. In semester one we are studying Economics and Business which involves developing an understanding of economics and business concepts, such as scarcity and making choices. In semester one we will also study Geography, developing the students' mental map of the world through a study of the location of countries in the Asia region.

In semester two we will be studying Australian History. The Year 6 curriculum moves from colonial Australia to the development of Australia as a nation, particularly after 1900. Students explore the factors that led to Federation and experiences of democracy and citizenship over time. In semester two we also study Civics and Citizenship Students where students continue building on their understanding of the concepts of justice, rights and responsibilities, and the Westminster system.

Business Fair

The Business Fair has become an anticipated event at Churchlands Primary School. Not only do our entrepreneurs in Rooms 10, 12 & 13 learn valuable business skills, but they also get to make some money that will subsidise the Year 6 camp. The skills and knowledge gained through this activity are part of the Economics and Business strand of the Humanities learning area.

Science

The Outcomes we are studying this year are the Earth and Space sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical sciences and the Biological Sciences with an equal emphasis on content and Working Scientifically. In Earth sciences we will be studying the structure of the earth, volcanoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis. Chemistry will be exploring and identifying the properties of matter and the differences between physical and chemical changes. The Physical science unit will consist of the study of renewable and non-renewable energy sources with an emphasis on electricity. Biology will focus on the classification of plants and animals and the characteristics that enable them to survive in different environments.

Health

We will be explicitly teaching the CPS Essential Social Skills, promoting the 'Churchlands Way'. These are:

- Using appropriate entry skills
- Interrupting appropriately
- Acknowledging others
- Appreciating others
- Saying 'please' and 'thank you'
- Disagreeing in non-hurtful ways
- Active listening
- Following instructions
- Taking turns
- Sharing

We will also focus on different kinds of friendship, protective behaviours, Bounce Back and cyber safety. At some time during the year the school nurse will conduct some lessons on puberty and healthy relationships.

Digital Technology and Design Technology

Teachers will be reporting on digital technology in semester 1 and design technology in semester 2. Staff have been familiarising with the new curriculum for the last 2 years, in readiness for reporting in 2018. Our semester 1 topics include understanding how digital systems communicate and interact, how digital systems represent data and how digital technology can be implemented to communicate information. This is more than a stand-alone learning area with digital technology integrated into most other learning areas and will see students learning so much more than just how to write code.

Phys Ed

Every Year 6 student will participate in 2x 40 minutes/week structured Physical Education lessons with Mr Marshall. On top of that every Friday they will participate in 40 minutes of Senior Sports with all Year 5 and Year 6 classes. The lessons are designed around in improving the students' fundamental movement skills, understanding movement, game play tactics and learning through movement.

Fundamental Movement Skills in Games – Students will learn how to throw in varying conditions and for different circumstances during game play.

Game Play Tactics – Students will learn how and when to use verbal and non-verbal communication to team mates during game play. Also, how to respond in transition of play between offence and defence by using appropriate positioning or use of skills.

Understanding Movement – Students will learn the benefits of physical activity on weight control and improved concentration. Also, they will learn the effect on movement skills when time, space, effort and people are changed or manipulated.

Learning through Movement – In this area student will learn about leadership in team activities and what effective strategies can be used to negotiate with others, provide encouragement, and deal with conflicts and disagreements

Assessment

During 2018 students will be assessed on the following;

- How they lead into offence and defence in game situations.
- Consistency of their catching from varied distances in game play
- How they modify their throw to suit the position of their teammate.
- How they use verbal and non-verbal communication during game play.
- Understanding of the effects of physical fitness on weight control and concentration.
- Explain the effects on movement skills when certain stimuli are manipulated.
- Explain how leadership is used to deal with conflict and disagreement.

Music

Music Program Summary 2018 – each class receives 1x 60 minutes of tuition each week
Whole school (Pre primary to year 6) will learn and sing community songs including ANZAC song, Music Count Us In song, WA day song.

Year 5 and 6

- Short film music composition using a Pixar cartoon
- Popular songs – listen and study as a class and individually
- Symphony Orchestra and score study – Mozart; The Haffner
- Uke development – more difficult chords, rhythms and scales plus improvisation
- Rhythm playing and writing including drum kit and digital rhythm writing
- Parody writing – analyse some fun parodies before writing your own
- Short Blast music making experiences – quick one lesson diverse experiences
- Music First digital music programs to be utilised

Michael Howesmith Music Specialist

Email: michael.howesmith@education.wa.edu.au

Feb 2018

Visual Art

Mrs Melinda Cockerill will take the students for an hourly art session weekly.

All students need to bring an old shirt to put over their uniform to protect it against accidental splatters from paint or ink or clay. The paint we use is water washable but the dyes in the paint can stain fabric.

During term one all students will be looking at Sculpture. At the end of term (week 10) we will be holding the Sculpture By The school art show. See the newsletter for regular updates.

The art room is an open classroom where you are all welcome to come and enjoy your children's ideas and progress. Please encourage your child's efforts and ask them to tell you about what they have been doing.

Melinda Cockerill – Melinda.cockerill@education.wa.edu.au

Drama 2018

Drama:

Students will be participating in a drama lesson once a week for 40 minutes in the Drama Room (next to the library). Curiosity, imagination and creative thinking will be essential ingredients for each lesson. Students will be performing improvised and scripted drama in class, exploring roles and imagining

situations. Developing confidence, self-esteem and relevant social skills are also core aims this semester. In addition, an appreciation of vibrant oral language and engaging vocabulary will be nurtured.

The Year 6 students will be performing a musical in term three, week 8. All students will have an opportunity to audition for a part in late term two. Roles will be announced before the end of term two so students can start to learn their lines/songs during the July holidays.

This will be a collaborative project with students encouraged to take ownership of the whole process of rehearsing, designing sets, creating props and adding their own ideas both on stage and behind the scenes.

Date for the diary- night time musical performance is Thursday September 6.

Mrs Idle is available to discuss aspects of the drama curriculum and student progress before school Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment.

Mrs Idle can also be contacted by email

Diane.Idle1@education.wa.edu.au

Year Six Camp

This year's Year 6 camp venue is Geraldton Camp School. The camp will be held in week 3 of Term 4 . Most of the proceeds from the business fair go towards camp. As the date approaches you will be given further information.

Crunch and Sip

Our school is committed to improving children's health. Crunch and Sip is a set break in the morning (10.00am) for students to eat fresh fruit or vegetables and drink water in the classroom. Students will need to bring a water bottle to sit on the desk and piece of fruit or vegetable each day.

Parent Contact

If parents need to contact me for an interview please email, send a note with your child or make an entry in your child's diary and I will contact you to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Seesaw

We will be using Seesaw as a way of communicating with parents at home. There is a letter with an individual QR code to take home today. Please sign up and you will be able to see some of the interesting things that are happening at school with the students regularly posting photos and videos of their day. All posts require teacher approval and will form an important part of developing responsible digital citizens at CPS.

If you need to contact me for information or to arrange an interview, please use my email to get in touch.

Contact details

Mark.O'Mara@education.wa.edu.au

February 2018