Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome back to the final term of 2016!

### Inquiry

Watch It Grow!

This term the Year 1s and 2s will explore Biological Sciences as part of their Inquiry unit. Students will examine living things and the way they grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves. Students will also explore the external features of living things, including different body parts and common features, and the habitats where their needs are met. Students will use a range of skills throughout the unit, which include making predictions and observations to reveal different patterns about the world, exploring the relationship between cause-and-effect to explain different phenomena, note-taking, keeping a science journal and synthesizing information.

Students will work both inside and outside of the classroom, and each grade will move to a different classroom to complete different experiments and activities as part of a six-session rotation over three weeks.

We are lucky to have Hands On Science coming to Kew Primary School to run three different incursions with the children; Weather & Earth, Life Cycles and Puppets. These 'hands on' and engaging sessions will consolidate acquired understandings and add to students’ knowledge of living things in the world!

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**Important dates for Term 4:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Play Project</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>Hands On Science Incursion: Weather &amp; Earth (All grades)</td>
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<td>November 21</td>
<td>Hands On Science Incursion: Life Cycles (Year 2s)</td>
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<td>November 22</td>
<td>Hands On Science Incursion: Life Cycles (Year 1s)</td>
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<td>November 24</td>
<td>Hands On Science Incursion: Puppets (Year 1s)</td>
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<td>November 28</td>
<td>Hands On Science Incursion: Puppets (Year 2s)</td>
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<td>December 6</td>
<td>Whole School Transition</td>
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<td>December 13</td>
<td>Whole School Transition</td>
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<td>December 20</td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
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<td>December 20</td>
<td>Last day of school Term 4 (Early dismissal 1:30pm)</td>
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“*If you’re not prepared to be wrong, you’ll never come up with anything original.*” – Ken Robinson
**Literacy**

This term we are focusing on procedural and persuasive texts, whilst also briefly revisiting narratives and letter writing.

Students will focus on:

**Procedural writing:**
- Correctly sequencing clear step-by-step instructions
- Writing impersonal instructions in the present tense
- Including materials
- Making sure steps can be easily followed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Speaking &amp; Listening</th>
<th>Spelling</th>
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| During daily Guided Reading and literacy group sessions; Use activities from a variety of texts & websites targeted to point of need. Refine and build on comprehension strategies to develop greater understandings of texts. Develop fluency in reading fiction and non-fiction texts, focusing on Biology. | Write non-fiction texts using a range of print and digital media and keep a science journal. Write 5 star sentences 1. Begin sentences with a capital letter 2. Use full stops, question marks and exclamation marks 3. Check spelling 4. Does it make sense? 5. Will it capture the reader's attention? | Participate in pair, group and class speaking and listening activities Experiment with volume and pace during presentations, and Share & Learn. Maintain eye contact and correct posture when speaking in front of an audience. Show active listening behaviours, including asking relevant questions. | Targeted spelling groups using Words Their Way assessments.  
- Word lists  
- Word walls  
- Dictionaries  
- Thesauruses  
- Word sorts  
- Word hunts  
- Word games: Boggle, Scrabble, Word Art  
- iPads: Explain Everything, Rocket Speller, Sunshine Classics. Weekly spelling groups based on students' point of need. |

**Persuasive writing:**
- Clearly stating the intention of the writing
- Using WOW words/powerful words to make the text more convincing
- Neatly organising the text into points and/or paragraphs.

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**Matilda Joy Rose**

*Esh from 2DP reading about the places he can travel to!*

**Welcome Back!**

We welcome back the very ‘hip’ Melissa who rejoins us after some time off for a (much needed!) hip operation. She’s steadily back on her feet!

We also welcome back Diamanto, who took our Term 3 Inquiry topic literally and had a fabulous time saying ‘Hello World!’ to New York, London & Greece.

And we welcome into the world Erin’s bundle of joy, Matilda Joy Rose, born 28/08/16, 5 pounds 8 ounces, six weeks early, but perfectly healthy (and adorable!).
Numeracy

Numeracy in Years 1 and 2 this term heavily focuses on problem solving strategies, which students will develop and refine to solve a range of different problems.

Numeracy in Year 1:
*In Number & Algebra students will:*  
- Represent and solve addition and subtraction problems using a range of strategies including counting on, partitioning and rearranging parts  
- Recognise fractions and describe one-half as one of two equal parts of a whole

*In Measurement & Geometry students will:*  
- Measure capacity using uniform informal units  
- Recognise and classify familiar 2D shapes and 3D objects using obvious features

*In Statistics & Probability students will:*  
- Choose simple questions and gather responses

Numeracy in Year 2:
*In Number & Algebra students will:*  
- Count and order small collections of Australian coins and notes according to their value  
- Represent multiplication and division by grouping into sets and divide collections and shapes into halves, quarters and eighths

*In Measurement & Geometry students will:*  
- Tell time to the quarter hour  
- Students draw 2D and 3D shapes, specify their features and explain the effects of one-step transformations.

*In Statistics & Probability students will:*  
- Collect data from relevant questions to create lists, tables and picture graphs with and without the use of digital technology

Play Project

Grade 1 and 2 students are participating in a Play Project workshop **Wednesday 12th October**. These workshops use captivating activities to help foster positive play attitudes and behaviours amongst young children.

Michael Ymer
*Expert Numeracy Consultant*

Last Wednesday, we were fortunate enough to work with renowned Numeracy Consultant, Michael Ymer for the final time this year. This was part of our ongoing professional learning with Michael that has looked at giving students a solid foundation in Mathematics.

Michael focuses on giving children hands-on opportunities to become Mathematical inquirers.

Our session last week focused on uncovering powerful and engaging ways to extend and enable our students while teaching problem solving skills and strategies.

This professional learning will be implemented across the term as students engage in all sorts of problem solving activities.
The Play Shed

After much anticipation, The Play Shed launched last term, much to the delight of students, teachers and all those involved!

The kids have absolutely loved getting outside and using different equipment and materials to build all sorts of wacky and wonderful things.

Not only are the kids having an absolute ball with it all, they are learning valuable lessons and critical life skills. Teachers take a step back and watch as this sort of free play encourages our students to problem solve to resolve conflicts, work in teams to achieve common goals and to become more aware of others’ feelings. It also helps students to regulate their own emotions and learn what it means to play fairly and respectfully.

The Play Shed encourages students to think creatively and critically, allows students to move around and get physically active to learn, and most importantly, it’s a whole lot of fun!

As always, if you ever need to contact any of us, please don’t hesitate to email us directly.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natalie 2BN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ryan.natalie.n@edumail.vic.gov.au">ryan.natalie.n@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bit 2BN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mclean.elizabeth.e@edumail.vic.gov.au">mclean.elizabeth.e@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamanto 2DP</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pantazis.diamanto.d@edumail.vic.gov.au">pantazis.diamanto.d@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick 2NW</td>
<td><a href="mailto:white.nicholas.n@edumail.vic.gov.au">white.nicholas.n@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa 1MH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hayes.melissa.a@edumail.vic.gov.au">hayes.melissa.a@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irena 11G</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gigli.irena.r@edumail.vic.gov.au">gigli.irena.r@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair 1BE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:erwin.blair.e@edumail.vic.gov.au">erwin.blair.e@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
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A Friendly Reminder

Bells: The first school bell rings at 8.50am. This is the signal for students to come inside quietly, unpack their bags and be ready for the 9am start.

Morning recess: 11am -11.30am
Lunch: 12.40pm-1.30pm

Absentees: If your child is absent, please notify their teacher via written note, email or the Skoolbag App.

Birthdays: Students can bring a treat to share on their birthday, however, our double classrooms are considered one big class. Alternatively, treats and/or birthday invites can be discretely handed out after school to avoid disappointment. Also, no lollipops, or any foods containing nuts or eggs, please!

Nits Blitz Fridays: Please check your child’s hair every Friday for nits and, if necessary, treat the scalp over the weekend. We appreciate your diligence in making sure they don’t spread!