Welcome back to 2016
Our team this year is:
Year 6: Andrew Wood & Sonia Hocking
Year 5: Sally Marsh, Lee-Ann Butchart & Alex Schifter

Inquiry
Term 1 Inquiry will integrate the domains of Personal and Interpersonal Learning, Health and Civics and Citizenship.

Year 6
The inquiry will be driven largely this term by the students Action Team Leadership roles where they will explore the many aspects of what makes a leader through the lens of working in a team to create a Billy Cart racing team

The Enduring Understanding is: We rise by lifting others. Students have already had a visit from the Richmond Football Club where 4 players shared the important aspects that makes someone a good leader. The key things shared were effective communication, importance of listening, believing in your message, developing your character and how the whole team leads and works together.

Year 5
The Enduring Understanding is:
Our ability to learn is defined by our understanding of ourselves, others and the choices we make.

Students will inquire into themselves as learners and the mindset needed to achieve personal goals. They will work in collaborative groups to form opinions on big questions such as:
‘What is intelligence?’ How can we learn? Why do you think the way you do?
Are there limits to our learning?
They will make individual choices as to how to present their ideas.

Contact details:
wood.andrew.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
hocking.sonia.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
sally.marsh.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
butchart.lee-ann.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
schifter.alex.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Upcoming Events
Inter School Sport
Fridays Week 3 – 9

Year 5 Camp
Term 4 23rd -25th Nov

Year 6 Canberra Camp
Term 3 29th Aug – 2nd Sept

Home Learning
As a Senior School Team we strongly believe that Home Learning should foster a lifetime love of learning that encourages positive family dynamics. By moving from ‘homework’ to Home Learning we are better describing the philosophy or reason for students completing tasks outside of school hours. We wish to continue to encourage excellence in literacy and numeracy. We expect that Year 6 students would have no more than 30-45 mins per day engaged with home learning. All students will receive their home learning for this term the beginning of Week 5 (22nd February) and every fortnight thereafter. Home Learning will be over a fortnightly basis and it is expected every student completes and hands in their Home Learning over this period.
English

Year 5
The focus in reading this term will be developing and strengthening comprehension strategies. These include making connections, predicting, questioning, visualizing, self-monitoring, clarifying and summarizing. We will explicitly teach these strategies during whole group reading sessions. Students will also read novels in small groups during the reading block. It is important for students to have a book of their choice at school for quiet reading sessions. Our writing involves teaching narrative and persuasive texts, using quality writing as a model. We will also focus on sentence structure, clauses and phrases. Spelling will be taught explicitly based on individual student needs.

Year 6
The focus in reading this term will be Literacy Circles where they will explore features of texts to identify, describe, and discuss similarities and differences between texts, including those by the same author or illustrator, and evaluate characteristics that define an author’s individual style.

They will examine language to identify the relationship between words, sounds, imagery and language patterns in narratives.

In writing students will practise, consolidate and extend what they have learned based around the genres of narrative, letters and factual reports. They develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of grammar and language, and are increasingly able to articulate this knowledge.

When speaking and listening students will be developing interaction skills, and varying conventions of spoken interactions such as voice volume, tone, pitch and pace, according to group size, formality of interaction and needs and expertise of the audience. Students Action Team Leadership roles will give them opportunity to challenge themselves in this area.

Mathematics

Year 5
During term one, students will focus on the following mathematical concepts: mental strategies including estimation and rounding, place value, factors and multiples, shape, time, probability and patterns. They will:

- Identify and describe factors and multiples of whole numbers and use them to solve problems
- Use estimation and rounding to check the reasonableness of answers to calculations
- Use efficient mental and written strategies and apply appropriate digital technologies to solve problems
- Describe, continue and create patterns with fractions, decimals and whole numbers resulting from addition and subtraction
- Connect three-dimensional objects with their nets and other two-dimensional representations
- Compare 12- and 24-hour time systems and convert between them
- List outcomes of chance experiments involving equally likely outcomes and represent probabilities of those outcomes using fractions
- Recognise that probabilities range from 0 to 1

Year 6
This term, Year 6 students will have a heavy focus on the number and algebra strand, with a particular emphasis on properties of numbers. Students will be exploring prime and composite numbers, square and triangular numbers as well as developing strategies to identify the prime factors of any given number. There will also be a focus on developing students’ knowledge and understanding of positive and negative integers and their relationship within the Cartesian Plane. Students will also be exploring the relationship between decimals and various forms of measurement.

Reading
At least 15 mins of reading a night. Please listen to your child read out aloud – its very important.

Model what a good reader sounds like. Enjoy a book together!