Every term is a busy one and term 4 is no exception! We have planned some very exciting activities for the students.

Our focus this term is on physical and chemical science. Science inquiry skills develop knowledge and understanding about the scientific method and how the method can be used as a tool for testing ideas. The scientific method rules involve:

- Asking a question
- Gathering information about the question
- Forming the hypothesis
- Putting the hypothesis to the test
- Drawing a conclusion
- Telling others about what you found out.

The three strands in the Australian Curriculum are:

1. Science Understanding
2. Science as a Human Endeavour
3. Science Inquiry Skills

These strands are closely integrated in the teaching and learning of Science. The students will be conducting their own scientific inquiry this term to develop the skills and concepts mentioned above.
Self management has been a focus this year to prepare the students for Year 6 and beyond.

Students are guided and encouraged to:

* Express emotions appropriately explain the influence of emotions on behaviour, learning and relationships
* Develop self-discipline, set goals and analyse factors that influence the ability to self-regulate; devise and apply strategies to monitor their own behaviour and set realistic learning goals
* Work independently and show initiative, assess the value of working independently and taking initiative to do so where appropriate
* Become confident, resilient and adaptable, devise strategies and formulate plans to assist in the completion of challenging tasks and the maintenance of personal safety

Working in the flexible learning space with the Year 6 students has provided the Year 5 students with the opportunity to practice many skills involved in self management. It is amazing to watch how independent and organised they have become during the year.

**Numeracy**

**Topics to be covered this term by Year 5 students are:**

* Statistics and Probability
  - outcome and probability range.
* Measurement
  - volume, capacity and mass
  - construct and estimate angles
* Number and Algebra
  - compare and order decimals
  - revision of fractions
* Problem solving tasks

**English**

The English curriculum is built around the three interrelated strands of Literature, Language and Literacy. Together the strands focus on developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.

Some of the areas we plan to cover this term are:

**Writing**

* Procedural writing
  * Write a procedure for a science experiment following the correct procedural format
* Narratives
  * Create literary texts using realistic and fantasy settings and characters
  * Select information, ideas and images from a range of resources to complete a scientific inquiry
  * Continue to develop a handwriting style that is becoming legible, fluent and automatic
  * Writer's Notebook
    * The student plans, drafts and reviews their writing on a chosen topic. This writing is then revised and edited.

**Reading & Viewing**

Guided reading and Literature Circles;

* Encourage students to read texts critically
* Ensure that students reflect on reading material
* Encourage the students to refer closely to the text in order to substantiate their interpretation of the text
  * Develop understanding of the various levels of comprehension - literal, inferential and evaluative

We are looking forward to a great term.

Melissa & Clare