Dear Yr. 5/6 Parents & Carers,

Welcome to Term 1 with the Year 5/6 Team. We hope you had a lovely break and we look forward to a great year of learning ahead. We’ve only been back for just over a week but the Grade 5/6 teaching team has been impressed with the students’ seamless adjustment back into the routines of school. In this Grade 5/6 News, we intend to provide a summary of the Term one happenings and some details of the remainder of the term.

Some important dates coming up this term for you to put in your diary...

- February 10th-12th: Phillip Island Camp
- February 17th: Parent Information Night 6.30pm start.
- February 19th: Summer interschool sports will begin. The competition will run every Friday morning during Term 1.
- February 29th: Pupil Free Day
- March 9th: Parent/ Teacher Interviews
- March 18th: Twilight Fete
- March 24th: Thursday- Last day of Term

Reminders:

- Tissues- it would be fantastic if each family could purchase a box of tissues and bring them to school to be used in the classroom.
- Punctuality - Please assist your child to be at school by 8:50am. Late arrivals are disruptive and interfere with valuable learning time. Students can bring their bags into the school corridors and place their bags into a designated bag storage space/hook. Students will then be encouraged to leave the buildings and wait outside until the music plays.

1:1 iPad Program

A reminder to all students to bring along their iPads fully charged each day. Students are reminded that they should not be using their iPads before or after school without parent supervision.

Positive Behaviours

Students have worked with the 5/6 teachers to develop their class agreements. The children will continue to be encouraged to uphold our school values of being: responsible, respectful, resilient, compassionate and critical thinkers. Marbles will be placed in the jars in the classroom for positive behaviours. All grades will enjoy a class nominated reward to celebrate a well-earned jar full of marbles.

Homework

Homework will be set fortnightly with an emphasis on English and Mathematics. Projects may be set across a range of learning areas in AUSVELS. Set homework may take up to 30-45 minutes per day. The reading component can be from set texts, research materials or own choice materials.
Curriculum Overview

Literacy

**Daily Reading Hour:**
We will continue to model, discuss and practise reading strategies by reading aloud to students, reading together with students, reading in small groups through reciprocal teaching, guided reading, student/teacher conferences and reading independently. Students will be encouraged to develop their comprehension skills by determining themes and ideas, questioning, summarising and using their prior knowledge to make connections with texts.

**Daily Writing Hour:**
We will continue to model, discuss and practise writing a range of text types. This term we will focus on the following genres:
- Persuasive texts
- Advertising
- Infographics
- Evaluations

**Word Study:**
Each week, we will continue to focus on investigating a spelling/sound pattern or other language conventions. Students will continue to bring home a series of words to be reviewed at home. These words will be selected on a ‘needs’ basis in small groups to assist your child to build up their phonemic awareness.

New words will be selected each fortnight and they will be reviewed the following week. Please encourage/assist your child to practise these words. Each week your child will be given the opportunity to define/review or play games with these words as part of their homework tasks.

**Daily Mathematics Hour:**
We will continue to model, discuss and practise mathematics skills and understandings and a range of strategies for solving mathematical questions.
- **Place Value**
- **Integers**
- **Financial maths**
- **Data Interpretation/drawing of graphs and representation information.**
- **Problem Solving Skills**
- **Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division**
- **Naplan style questioning strategies.**

We encourage you to assist your child in practicing their tables at home as well as at school. Students should also be given opportunities to read both analogue and digital time.

Inquiry

**Big Question? How can we work together to create something successful?**

In Term 1, students will work on creating a successful ‘business’. They will design and develop a product (game) that they can take to the fete (sideshow alley) and sell. Students will market their product using different advertising techniques. They will make many choices throughout this unit to develop their decision-making skills and they will be required to evaluate their progress on an ongoing basis. This unit has a strong mathematics link to money.