



MANLY WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Griffiths Street, Balgowlah. NSW 2093

T: 9948-2257 E:manlywest-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

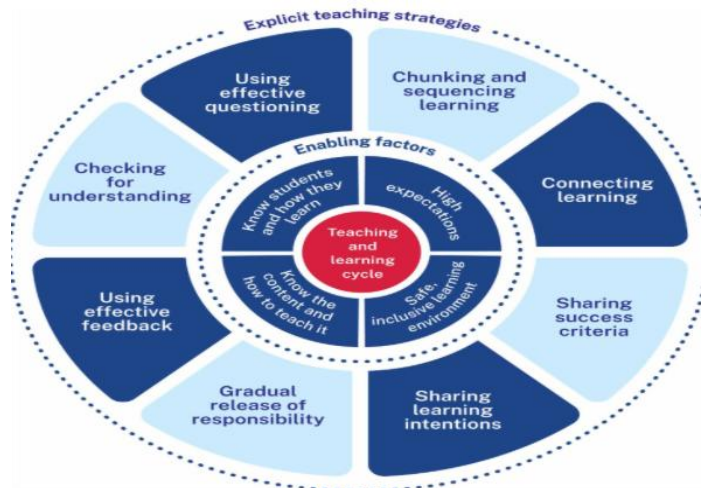
Tuesday 14th October, 2025

Year Five Grade Newsletter – Term 4

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Explicit Teaching at Manly West PS

Our teachers are actively engaged in the explicit teaching of concepts for students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Research clearly demonstrates that explicit teaching strategies enhance learning outcomes for all students across every classroom. At Manly West, students are consistently provided with clear Learning Intentions and Success Criteria in all English and Mathematics lessons, as well as in other subject areas. In addition to these strategies, our teachers implement a range of other effective strategies to support student learning. They also participate in ongoing professional learning focused on various elements of explicit teaching, ensuring that every student has the best possible opportunity to succeed.



Reminder: Please ask your children how they are going with K- 6 Evidence Based Maths Fluency Focus at Manly West PS.

Our teachers have recently engaged in professional learning to improve student fluency in Mathematics. We have been focused on embedding strategies that improve the ability for students to recall maths facts quickly and with little effort. At Manly West, we are implementing a Maths Fluency program where students will review and practice known maths facts multiple times a week for five minutes each session. This initiative will be implemented this term K-6 and reviewed consistently by teachers to ensure effectiveness.

Research into Cognitive Load Theory demonstrates that our working memory can hold 4-5 pieces of information at once. When teaching Mathematics, we need to move learned information from students' working memory into their long-term memory. Research shows this is best completed through effective practice and repetition.

English

Our focus this term will be on writing for informative purposes, looking closely at the different text features found in a range of texts. While responding to literature, students will examine and analyse the social, personal and moral messages found within these informative texts. Students will participate in modelled, guided and independent activities. Spelling and Vocabulary lessons will be taught alongside these units. Students will share their Influential Person Website to further develop their speaking and listening skills.

Mathematics

Strands being covered this term include Fractions, Decimals, Multiplication and division, Chance, Volume and Data. Working Mathematically outcomes will continue to be embedded in all topics through problem solving activities which encourage Mathematical reasoning and communication.

History

Our unit of study this term focuses on the significance of migrants to Australia's colonial and post-colonial history and the influences that these newcomers have had and continue to have on Australian society.

Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)

Students will continue to develop their understanding of art elements and techniques, including huckaback weaving. This term in Drama, Year 5 students will extend their performance skills through a focus on characterisation, collaboration, and storytelling. Building upon their improvisation work from Term 3, students will explore how movement, voice, and space can be used to develop more complex characters and scenes. They will work in groups to devise and perform short dramatic pieces that demonstrate their understanding of dramatic elements such as tension, focus, and relationship.

Science and Technology

This term, students in Stage 3 will be exploring some important body systems, including the respiratory, circulatory and digestive systems. They will identify the main organs and functions of these systems and develop an understanding of their interconnected nature within the human body. Students will be completing a hands-on task during these lessons in the coming weeks. Each pair will require a clean, empty 600mL plastic bottle. Students can bring these to the Science room, labelled with a name and class by the end of Week 2. Mrs Bellomo will discuss this in class also. Students will also take part in a Technology unit; integrating coding skills while developing their understanding of leadership, to create a game about their influential person.

PD/Health/PE

Students will develop Leadership Dispositions through Personal Development lessons, in preparation for Year 6 leadership opportunities. Students will participate in organised sport sessions to enhance physical movement skills and sportsmanship. PSSA will continue until Week 8.

Uniform

Students are to be commended on how responsible they have been in wearing the correct summer uniform, upon their return back to school. However, just a reminder that school uniform should be worn at all times, including black school shoes, the MW school jumper and royal blue school hat in the playground. Sports uniform continues to be required on Tuesdays and Fridays. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Homework

From Week 1 to 9, students will complete online homework activities including Matific, Typing Tournament and mini projects posted to the Google Classroom. Students will also be asked to read for at least 15 minutes each day.

Great Aussie Bush Camp

We are in the process of preparing students for camp, and we have a lot of excitement surrounding Week 3. All information required has been emailed to parents, and key information for students has been posted on Google Classroom.

We thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Jimmy Richards, Mr Zachary Johns and Miss Francesca Scobie. (Year 5 Teachers)

Mrs Julie Organ (Principal)