



MANLY WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

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YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER - Term 4

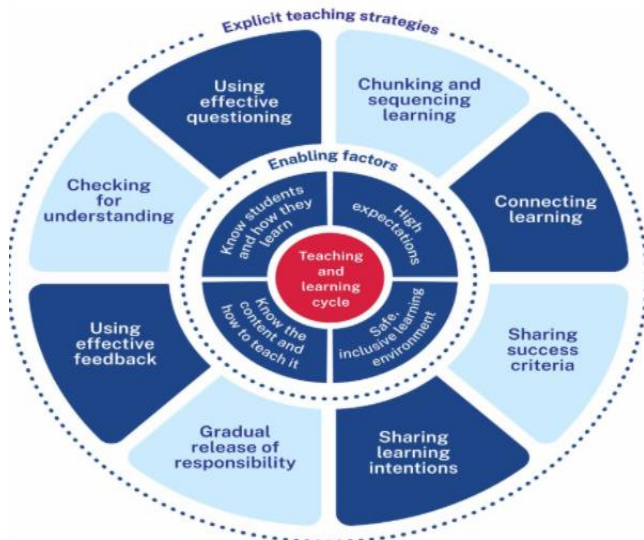
11th October, 2024

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Welcome back to Term Four. We are looking forward to a busy term ahead and we cannot believe that this is final term of your child's primary school journey. This newsletter will provide you with an overview of what the children will be learning in class and the exciting events they have to look forward to this term. Diary Dates are on School Bytes on the Parent Calendar. These dates will be the most up to date throughout the term.

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.

Stationery

Please remind your child to check that they have all the necessary equipment, as at this point in the year, supplies of pens, pencils, whiteboard markers, glue sticks, etc., are low. Please also remind your child to check that they have all the necessary equipment in their pencil cases. All Year 6 students are required to have headphones at school. A mouse may be used if they prefer and must be brought from home.

Stage 3 Key Learning Areas

English

Students will use the mentor text *Mahtab's Story* by Libby Gleeson to deepen their understanding of the textual concepts of characterisation and narrative. They will explore narrative conventions and patterns and use these effectively to craft engaging character descriptions and diary entries, as well as compose a range of texts based on the themes of the novel. They will explore themes of displacement, resilience, and identity through the journey of a young refugee. In the second half of the term, students will create fables to share with their Kindergarten buddies and will focus on letter writing techniques. The development of spelling strategies, grammar and punctuation, as well as reading comprehension and fluency skills, will be explored throughout this unit.

Mathematics

The focus areas in Mathematics will include Fractions, Multiplication and Division, Time, Volume, and Coordinates. Working Mathematically will be embedded throughout the term to develop students' understanding and fluency by exploring and connecting mathematical concepts, choosing and applying mathematical techniques to solve problems, and communicating their thinking and reasoning coherently and clearly.

PDHPE

Our School Expectations of Respect, Responsibility, and Aspire will be reinforced daily in lessons. We will continue to support students throughout the year and monitor their welfare continually. PSSA and School Sport will operate each Friday, giving students the opportunity to develop physical, sportsmanship, and teamwork skills. Fortnightly Grade Sport lessons will be taught on alternate Wednesdays, providing students with the skills needed to participate in a variety of sports. Students are required to wear sports uniforms on **Wednesdays and Fridays**.

Pedlars' Parade

As part of the Personal Development syllabus, students will continue to develop intrapersonal and interpersonal understanding and skills through their involvement in Pedlar's Parade activities. This will take place on Tuesday, 18th November, with a backup date of 25th November in case of wet weather. Teachers will guide groups on how to create effective stalls, and students are required to work collaboratively. These lessons will be completed during class time.

During Pedlars' Parade, students wear mufti and organise prizes for those groups running competitions. If using raffles, students need to ensure there are enough tickets, clearly marked with students' names and classes, and keep a list for easy winner identification. Students are required to organise a float of at least \$20 in mixed coins for each group and decide how the float will be supplied and refunded. Costs should be kept minimal, as the school does not reimburse stall expenses. Secure containers must be used for money, with one person responsible for tracking collections. It is important that all activities are safe, ingredient lists are provided for any lolly prizes, and lollies are kept to a minimum. If using ice blocks, students must supply eskies and ice. If Pedlar's Parade is postponed due to weather, students will need to arrange the storage of ice blocks, as the canteen does not provide this. Students will work during lessons to advertise their stalls using large signs and Canva posters. Students cannot bring any electrical items. **Please note this is a student-only event.**

History

In History, students will examine Australian human rights, past and present, affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, migrants, women, and children. Students will investigate how Australian society has changed throughout the twentieth century for these groups and the significance of the Stolen Generations in the struggle for the rights and freedoms of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Music, Science, and Technology

In Music, students are studying a range of musical genres, including pop, rock, jazz, hip-hop, and classical. Through focused activities in performance, composition, and listening, they are developing a deeper understanding of how rhythm, melody, and texture contribute to different musical styles. Students will apply these skills to create and refine their own compositions and ensemble performances later in the term.

In Science, Stage 3 students will explore 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 complete a hands-on task in Science in the coming weeks. Each pair will require a clean, empty 600mL plastic bottle. Students can bring these to the Science room, labelled with their name and class, by the end of Week 2. Mrs Bellomo will discuss this in class as well. Students will continue to develop technology skills using various GSuite for Education apps and increase their typing speed and accuracy using the Typing Tournament online program.

Leadership Development

Multiple leadership opportunities will continue to be available this term. Students may continue their roles in areas such as Multicultural Officers, Flag Monitors, Canteen Monitors, Technology Team Monitors, and PBEL Monitors, where they support the implementation of School Expectations in the playground and communicate these during assemblies.

Kindergarten Buddy Leadership Program

The popular and successful Buddy Program will continue this term with planned buddy meetings. Year 6 students will build communication and leadership skills as they assist their Kindergarten buddies with learning activities across a range of Key Learning Areas. We ask that students do not purchase gifts for their buddies to ensure equity for all students.

Transition to High School

This term, students will continue to be taught strategies to assist their transition to high school. Class teachers continuously reinforce organisational and time management skills daily to prepare students for a smooth transition.

Homework

Homework will begin in Week 2 and will be posted on Google Classroom. Homework consists of a reading log and

some online tasks, including research assignments, presentations, and Matific Mathematics activities. This is developing students' time management skills as they prepare for high school.

Uniform

Students are to be commended for their responsible wearing of the correct summer uniform upon return to school. However, please remember that the school uniform should be worn at all times, including black school shoes, the MW school jumper, and the royal blue school hat in the playground. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Important Year 6 Dates

Year 6 Graduation - Thursday 13th November

Pedlars Parade - Tuesday 18th November / Back Up Tuesday 25th November

Presentation Day – Thursday 4th December

End of year Celebration - Tuesday 9th December

Clap Out - Thursday 18th December 2.50pm

Kind Regards,

Catherine Jones, Chloe Mansbridge, Sophie Clisby ,Emma Siale
Elise Havenstein, Amanda Bergelin, Christy McMaster,

Julie Organ

Principal

Year 6 Team