



Teaching and Learning Update Thursday 31 March 2022

TERM 1 KEY DATES & REMINDERS

Parent-teacher interviews (telephone contact) - Monday 4 April to Friday 8 April (Week 10)

School photos - Tuesday 5 April (Week 10)

Last day of Term 1 - EARLY DISMISSAL - 2.10pm Thursday 14 April (Week 11)

T2 Pupil Free Day - Monday 2 May (Term 2 Week 1)

English

Classes across our school have been utilising the curriculum resources from the Department for Education (DfE) to implement high quality learning aligned with the Australian Curriculum.

All of our teachers (Reception to Year 6) and curriculum support staff have also received professional development around a consistent whole-school approach to phonics instruction this term, including an intensive course with a Literacy Coach from SPELD SA (Specific Learning Difficulties SA) on our recent pupil free day. This work is all about increasing consistency and continuity across the year levels at Warradale, to support all of our students to develop their fluency and improve their overall achievement in reading.

In our early years, students have been introduced to the 'Big Six' of reading, which include Phonics, Phonological Awareness, Oral Language, Comprehension, Vocabulary and Fluency. It is important that students have a firm grasp over each component to foster lifelong success as readers and writers.

Across our middle years, classes have been engaging with the DfE 'units of work' and have been learning to analyse the structure of fairytales and identify the language choices we use to persuade others. Noun and verb groups, direct and indirect speech, and more formalised and structured elements of the English language have also been a focus.

Our upper primary students have been strengthening their comprehension and fluency through the reading of a class text, 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. Individual and guided reading practices and exploration have supported students to explore key themes and literary devices, while further developing their abilities as independent readers.



Mathematics

Across our whole school, Number and Place Value have been the main focus of all classes in Maths. It is important that students have a strong understanding of these core mathematical concepts as they serve as the foundational base for all other areas of Maths.

All teachers (Reception to Year 6) and curriculum support staff will be engaged in a Mathematics teaching and learning course across Term 2, commencing on our next pupil free day Monday 2nd May. The course has been designed by Stanford University and includes modules on mathematical mindsets, mistakes and persistence, connections and questioning, and algebra. As outlined in our 2022 Site Improvement Plan, our aim is to improve the achievement of all Warradale students in Mathematics, by developing their ability to apply their mathematical understandings to solve increasingly complex problems using a range of strategies.

Our Foundation classes have been learning to count to 10 and ordering numbers up to 20 this term. This is extended in Years 1 and 2, with students working with numbers from 1-100 and developing their skills across the four mathematical proficiencies of fluency, reasoning, understanding and problem solving.

The middle years have been engaging with the DfE units of work to provide evidence-based learning opportunities in the area of place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

In our Year 5 and 6 classes, students have been developing their understanding of prime and composite numbers, as well as integers (more commonly known as positive and negative numbers).

Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum information for parents and carers

The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (or KS:CPC) is mandated in all public preschools and schools and is taught every year. It is a world-class, evidence-based child safety program that focuses on respectful relationships and child safety for children and young people from age 3 to year 12. All teachers are required to complete training in the delivery of this curriculum.

The curriculum follows 2 main themes:

- we all have the right to be safe
- we can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust

The 2 themes are explored through 4 focus areas:

- the right to be safe
- relationships
- recognising and reporting abuse
- protective strategies



At Warradale Primary School, KS:CPC is covered R-6 and is supported by the delivery of the Kidz Biz program for students in year 3-6. Kidz Biz is an intensive and targeted growth and development program that covers important topics such as personal and internet safety, body image, media influences and puberty, supported by educators who are specialists in this area.