

## Parent Information Year 6 2020

Welcome to Year 6. We are looking forward to an enjoyable and productive year of learning with your children.



### Communication

Please feel free to make an appointment to see us regarding your child's progress or any concerns you may have. You are also more than welcome to just pop in to say hello! We are available most afternoons by prior arrangement. Staff meetings are held on Tuesday afternoons and team collaborative meetings are held on Thursday afternoons. Teachers are best contacted via email.

### Connect

As part of our Digital Technologies learning and in order to communicate with each other, the students will be using the department's Connect platform which can only be used for school related activities. The email function is **disabled** on this account. Parents can access at any time in order to keep up to date with the daily routines of the class. We will also use Connect to send out push notifications and brief announcements to parents. Connect can be accessed by parents via their P-number. Please see the office if you need assistance accessing Connect. We will also post regular updates and photos of classroom activities, providing students have photo permissions. Individual student work won't be public.

### Academic Program:

The academic program consists of English, Mathematics, HASS, Science, Health, Design & Digital Technologies. In every class there are a range of abilities and learning needs. Students will consolidate learning at various levels of difficulty. Every child will experience targeted small group work with their teacher on a daily basis. Students will be aware of learning requirements for each lesson through the use of Learning Intentions WALT (We Are Learning To) and Success Criteria.

At Hammond Park Primary School we use the following strategies to cater for the needs of all students in our classroom.

- ✓ Explicit teaching (whole class and small group)
- ✓ Hands on and interactive activities
- ✓ Rotation activities
- ✓ Mixed grouping and ability grouping
- ✓ Tuning in and plenary activities
- ✓ Integrated use of digital technologies

### English

#### English

By the end of Year 6, students should be able to:

- Understand how an author uses text structure to achieve an effect on the reader
- Explain how an author has selected specific vocabulary to enhance descriptions of settings, events and characters
- Comprehend and analyse increasingly complex texts, explaining literal and implied meaning
- Compare texts and make connections between them
- Give their opinions on a text, supporting these opinions with evidence from the text. When reading the opinions of other people, they are able to identify evidence for that point of view
- Recognise language patterns (repeated language/ verse/ words) in a text, and explain why the author may have chosen these patterns
- Create detailed texts, elaborating on key ideas, for a range of purposes and audiences
- Make engaging presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions

- Challenge the ideas presented to them during discussions
- Demonstrate an understanding of grammar, punctuation and spelling
- Make editing choices that consider vocabulary and text cohesion

Our English block includes formalised spelling, writing, language, speaking and listening, and reading activities.

### Spelling

In Years 3-6, the Words Their Way spelling program is used to teach word study skills. Students are taught to discover patterns in words and think critically about the words they read and spell. Students work their way through activities using their "Word Sort". Word sorts are chosen specifically to cater for individual differences in the classroom of students and cater for the spelling behaviours they demonstrate in their writing.

### Talk 4 Writing

Talk 4 Writing is HPPS's whole school approach to teaching writing. This is an engaging and challenging program where students are scaffolded through stages of the writing process, creating high quality, structured texts and building on their bank of vocabulary and creative ideas.

### Lexile/ Scholastic Literacy Pro

Your child will sit a Lexile Placement Test at several points in the year. This will give them a range of books to choose from in the library that are appropriate to their level of reading ability and their interests. Once they have read their Lexile book, your child can complete a comprehension quiz and gain points and certificates. During silent reading and our English block, your child will be given time to read their Lexile book and complete quizzes, but please encourage your child to read their Lexile book at home. E-books are also available for your child to read and complete quizzes. The school will be holding a Lexile information session for parents in Semester One. More information will be provided on this closer to the date.

### Guided reading

During our English Block, students will be taught a range of reading comprehension strategies. They will engage with a range of varied text types and assisted to practise these reading strategies. This will take place both as a whole class (modelled and shared reading) and guided reading in small groups. Your child's group will meet with the class teacher for small group work several times a week.

## **Mathematics**

### Maths

By the end of Year 6, students should be able to:

- Explain prime, composite, square and triangular numbers
- Solve problems using all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division)
- Write and solve problems following the order of operations, including use of brackets
- Connect fractions, decimals and percentages and convert between them. Identify these on a number line
- Multiply and divide decimals and connect this to the "powers of ten"
- Describe and continue patterns involving fractions, decimals and percentages
- Calculate a fraction of a quantity or group of objects
- Calculate percentage discount on sale items
- Use decimal notation when measuring (length, area, volume, capacity, mass)
- Interpret timetables
- Describe combinations of 2-D shape transformations
- Construct simple prisms and pyramids
- Locate coordinating points on a cartesian plane (four quadrants)
- Solve problems using the properties of angles, including calculating missing angles
- Calculate frequency of chance events (as simple fractions, decimals and percentages) and compare this to the estimated frequency

- Interpret and compare a range of data displays
- Interpret and discuss data displays shown in the media

Mathematics blocks cover Number & Algebra, Statistics & Probability and Measurement & Geometry. Mathematical concepts will also be covered in other learning areas, such as Science. The Maths block incorporates explicit teaching with rotation activities on a daily basis. Rotations involve a range of hands-on, ICT-integrated, written and/or problem solving activities. In every Maths block, your child will engage in small group work with the teacher. We will be using Mathletics with your child to support learning in the classroom. This website is curriculum-aligned and your child will be guided daily as to which activities they should attempt. Mathletics is accessible at home.

### **Specialist Classes**

This year our specialist subjects are:

LOTE – Indonesian

Art

Music

Physical Education

### **Class Timetable**

Please refer to your child's Connect page to access the individual class timetables.

### **Morning Routine**

The classroom door is opened from 8:40am. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for his/her belongings and check the morning message board before entering the classroom. Upon arrival at school, students should ensure that their pencils are sharpened and all materials required for learning have been taken inside the classroom. Every day, the whiteboard will show a task for the students to work on before the siren at 8.50am.

### **Homework**

Students will be provided with homework on a weekly basis starting in Week 3. This year your child's homework will consist of

- ✓ A weekly maths sheet
- ✓ Spelling word sort to be sorted three times a week
- ✓ A reading log to be completed daily

Homework will go home on a Monday and be checked on a Friday. When your child brings their new word sort home, please discuss it with them and remind them to sort it into categories like they did in class. This will consolidate in-class learning and encourage understanding of word patterns and spelling rules, rather than rote learning a list of words. Should you wish your child to do some extra homework, please allow them to access Mathletics and Lexile. Lexile has a range of e-Books available for your child to read and complete quizzes.

### **Allergies**

Our school is allergy aware. We have several students with specific allergies and medical requirements including anaphylaxis. As a precaution, please be aware of this and avoid sending nuts to school in your child's lunch. If your child is bringing in a cake or cupcakes etc for their birthday, we ask that these do not contain nuts.

### **Year 6 Camp**

Year 6 Camp will take place in Week 10 of Term 1. Further information about the camp will be sent home closer in a separate note.

### **Year 6 Graduation**

Year 6 Graduation consists of a Graduation dinner for the students and a Graduation assembly that parents and families are invited to attend. Both ceremonies will take place towards the end of Term 4 and further information will be provided closer to the date.

We are looking forward to working with you and your child throughout the year. We are sure it will be an exciting and productive year for us all!

Stacey Vuletich and Amy James (F1), David Salvaire (F2) and Fiona Walsh (F3)