

Mr Wyatt Term 3 Overview

Year 4/5 2022

English

Language

Students will continue to use the Words Their Way word program to further develop understanding of how to use spelling rules, word features, base words, suffixes, prefixes, spelling patterns and generalisations to learn new words. A focus is on word understanding, as there is little point in students knowing how a word is spelt without knowing the meaning. Through word meaning then comes the application of these words to various tasks. Assessment will occur through bi-weekly word feature tests, which seeks to see if students can identify word features, word meanings and spelling of words.

A focus with language will be the continued use of proof reading, green for growth and pink for perfect strategy. The language choices for non-fiction texts will be highlighted with students asked to research and develop word banks. This language will be used in student quick writes, with the term focus of non-fiction, informative text types.

Literacy

The creation of texts will be underpinned by a cross-curricula approach, so that students can see the relevance and power of written texts. The text type which will be a focus for the term will be non-fiction informative texts. The quick write lessons will follow this focus and students will engage in numerous new and exciting text prompts. Several lessons will consist of students creating speeches on current issues and presenting these in various forms.

The cross curricula links will be made through civics and citizenship, in which the focus is looking at democracy and the power of voice within a democratic system. The speeches and various other writing topics on non-fiction issues will be a perfect fit. This unit focus will also lead us to reviewing the language and literacy content of many well-known figures, such as Greta Thunberg. This content will not only provide excellent stimulus but a challenge to highlight technical features such as language features and modality language choices.

Literature

Students will engage with a variety of text types central to the non-fiction informative text writing focus. The use of short texts and video will also form part of the literature engagement. The decoding of unfamiliar language will continue as there will be lots of new language used across the various literature types. Technical words and persuasive language features will be used by the students. Class library sessions will continue to occur on a weekly basis, with a teacher shared book occurring during these times. Ability grouping for comprehension activities will also continue, with levelled readers targeting students' individual needs. The ability grouping will also occur within a grammar/reading rotation to ensure that students have a variety of questions at their level to engage with.

Mathematics

Maths is not confined to maths lessons, with a cross curricula approach taken again this term. Multiple links will be made with other activities throughout the day, from STEM to civics and citizenship. Engagement of maths which is relevant to students' lives will be the key driver for the Australian curriculum content. Every lesson will be underpinned with sharing of work samples, either from student work or pre-created work samples. Ensuring students show their evidence of their thinking is a key priority across maths.

Daily mental maths will foster the fluency of maths skills, these have been popular with the class as students can see and monitor their own success as the year goes on. The focus this term is on worded problems, with many students struggling with decoding key facts from these questions. The challenge embedded within each lesson will continue, as the productive work struggle is essential for all lessons and for growth to continue.

The main topics will include measurement, area, volume and location. Students will estimate and calculate the perimeter and area of shapes, and solve associated problems of measurement. Students will choose appropriate units of measurement. We will review time, including converting between 12-hour and 24-hour time. Measurement is a perfect opportunity for real life maths, especially using real life stories such as 'Mr Wyatt's Ikea Trip'. Practice and application of measurement skills will be the foundation to opening up real and honest conversations about misconceptions. For example, using a task called 'personal measure' which will be highly engaging, yet challenge students thinking when converting between units.

HASS

CIVICS & CITIZENSHIP – Political & Economic Systems

This term we will look at Australia's government system and develop an understanding of the principle of democracy and its origins across the world. This unit will include working as active citizens, laws and regulations; and features of the electoral process.

Inquiry question/s: How can local government contribute to community life? What is the difference between rules and laws? What does democracy in Australia look like?

As part of the unit learning, students will devise a set of new class rules which the class will then vote on. A key element will be a role play, with democratic voting. Links will also be made to the school rules and laws of Australia. The unit will also involve students witnessing and discussing local government systems and reviewing our democratic class culture. A cross curricula priority being English, with oral language and written language skills being reviewed.

STEM and Technologies

After last terms hands on application of various skills with the greenhouses students will be taking a classroom based approach of designing an experiment. This experiment will be based on popcorn, with students choosing the direction of their experiment. This engaging and enlightening topic will see students choose an experiment aim and then devise steps to test their own predictions. Students will then be asked to present their findings via a scientific report.

The Arts

Using the cross curriculum lens again, students will engage and represent various findings through drama. The HASS unit will provide an excellent platform for developing drama skills, with a mock parliament being run. Students will need to consider audience context for these plays, as parliament sittings are considered formal settings, forcing many students to utilise acting skills never tried before.

In media, students will consider still images and best practices to capture these images. The STEM unit will be a key vehicle to deliver this unit area. The images will then be used as part of the STEM unit presentation and review process.

Health/PE

Social Skills & PE: This term social skill concepts and PE skills are linked together through the 'game of the week'. Game of the week is a fun engaging way to discuss issues that arise naturally through game play, e.g. anger management and approaches to handling emotions. Also a new concept of 'change your words, change your mindset' will be introduced. This focus is all about changing the language students bring to tasks.

Health: Mr Grigg will be changing from the health curriculum of term two to game based skills in term three. Premier's Be Active Challenge will also feature across the term.